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VOL. 11, NO. 11

October 1, 1983

60¢

GayCommunity News

THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES

BIPAD: 65498



Surviving the "Justice" System

GayCommunityNews

Vol. 11, No. 11 (617) 426-4469 © GCN, 1983 October 1, 1983

Collective is 'Relieved, Vindicated, but Cautious'

Body Politic's Acquittals Upheld in Canada

By Sue Hyde

TORONTO — A York County Court judge upheld on September 14 two previous acquittals of *The Body Politic* on charges laid against the Canadian magazine for "using the mails to transmit indecent, immoral or scurrilous materials." The charges were connected with the publication of an article entitled "Men Loving Boys Loving Men" which stated "boy love is not child molestation."

Judge Patricia R. German re-

leased her opinion rejecting the Provincial Government's second appeal of *The Body Politic's* acquittal. Her decision may mark the end of nearly six years of court battles for the magazine. By Canadian law, the government may appeal verdicts repeatedly until a verdict satisfactory to it is rendered, an option the government has used twice already and could use again.

Collective member Chris Bear-

chell told GCN, "We feel relieved and somewhat vindicated, but we're also being cautious. They've appealed this case every time we've won and our reaction has been 'Why does it feel like we're losing when we're supposed to be winning?'"

Bearchell explained that the government has 30 days from the date of the opinion to appeal German's ruling. She said the decision is written in such a way that "it's not going to be appealable."

Attorney General Roy McMurtry initially told the Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC) there would be no appeal. However, as the day progressed and he got more media calls, his position on the appeal had softened to "not likely."

Bearchell said she thought the CBC's coverage of the day's events played a role in McMurtry's change of position. "It almost seemed like they were suggesting public opinion ought to be mustered to persuade him to appeal," Bearchell said.

The CBC also aired a documentary about *The Body Politic* that had been produced over a year ago. "The whole focus of it was quite hysterical and seemed to suggest that we were guilty, but we'd been hit with the wrong charge. If only the Crown had been doing its job, we would have been in jail a long time ago. The total effect of the coverage wasn't real encouraging."

The charges of using the mail to transmit indecent material were

brought against the magazine's publisher, Pink Triangle Press, and its three corporate officers after the December 1977 publication of the article on man/boy love. All three corporate officers, Gerald Hannon, Ed Jackson and Ken Poppert, are still members of the collective that publishes the 12-year-old monthly magazine.

Provincial Court Judge Sydney Harris first dismissed the charges on Feb. 14, 1979. Provincial Court Judge Thomas Mercer rejected the Crown's first appeal of the acquittal on June 15, 1982. A second appeal was filed on July 13, 1982 and was rejected by Judge German on Sept. 15.

In her written opinion, Judge German supported Judge Mercer's findings that the article on pedophilia "is not beyond the tolerance of the community," in spite of the article's advocacy of man/boy love.

Attorney General McMurtry maintains that his pursuit of the case does not constitute harassment.

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Demonstrating Gay Clout

Cincinnati Group Endorses City Candidates

By John Zeh

CINCINNATI — A gay political action group here has endorsed three candidates for City Council seats. Two are black Democrats and the third is a white Republican who has "nervously" accepted their support.

Stonewall Cincinnati, the political action group, launched a two-month voter registration drive in local gay bars and will continue other activities on behalf of black candidates Marian Spencer and Sam Britton and Republican incumbent Guy C. Guckenberger.

The three will appear at a Candidate's Forum on Sept. 27 at the Metropolitan Community Church. Members of Stonewall count the candidates' appearances at their forum as one of several gains for their organization, which grew out of a Greater Cincinnati Gay Coalition (GCGC) work group.

Sam Britton, a Democrat and white collar worker at Cincinnati Bell, lists Stonewall as an endorser on his campaign literature, according to Stonewall political action director C. Jason Byers.

"That's an important first, along with the forum, in our involvement being recognized as an important part of Sam's campaign," he told GCN.

Stonewall provided escorts for Britton at a recent parade for Beech Acres Orphanage. The group will post signs and drop literature around the University of Cincinnati (UC) where many lesbians and gay men live. Stonewall has also arranged a bar tour for Britton.

"This work has been an education for us," Byers said, "but it has also been educational for the candidates. Britton, for example, is understanding and kind, but was not too aware of anti-gay discrimination."

Guckenberger's acceptance of Stonewall's endorsement was front page news in this Midwestern city. "I can't say I'm not nervous about it," the candidate said, "but I believe that a council member should represent the entire community." Guckenberger finished fourth in the 1981 nine-person race. He promised to support, although will not sponsor, guarantees in city contracts to protect lesbians and gay men against anti-gay discrimination in employment.

"The fact that we gave the nod to a Republican is a bit surprising," Byers conceded. "But if you look at his record, he's

always been known as a decent man in Council. Despite his party affiliation, he's even more liberal than some Democrats. A lot of gay Republicans, in Hyde Park, for example, will be glad to hear he's endorsed [by us] and this should give us more viability when we point out that we are non-partisan," he added.

Stonewall began three years ago when Byers, a UC graduate student in musical theater, was invited by GCGC member David Passer to help increase the community's political outreach. As an independent political action committee, the group endorsed four Council candidates, including openly gay Joshua Moore.

Participation in a June 1981 anti-Reagan march introduced Byers and others to members of Stonewall Union in Columbus, a group modeled after a Houston counterpart which helped elect the mayor in that city.

"The big impetus," Byers said, "came March 28, 1982 when we had a marathon meeting with Stonewall Union people and that night heard on WAIF-FM's 'Gaydreams' that Rev. Jerry Falwell was coming to town." Byers credits that organizing effort, in cooperation with Lesbian Activist Bureau and others, to greet the Moral Majority guru as "the actual birth" of his group.

The local Stonewall effort teamed up with their near-namesake in Columbus and with Cleveland's Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club to work for Gov. Dick Celeste's successful bid for office. The three groups also supported candidates for the Buckeye State's legislature. Stonewall's work with Celeste's Cincinnati campaign director, Brewster Rhodes, paved the way for the group's entry into Marian Spencer's campaign, Byers explained.

Stonewall, organized to fight for the civil rights of all people, holds monthly meetings with featured speakers. Recent topics have included unionism, the New Right, AIDS and will/partnerships.

What's ahead for this group? "That depends on how effective we are in proving that our support is not a liability to candidates," Byers said.

"This could be our first major inroad to Council, where friends and allies can help us influence legislation. As some have said, gay Cincinnati is ten years behind in

electoral politics. We've traced steps taken earlier in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Houston and elsewhere to demonstrate the potential of gay clout," he concluded.

Boston Women Meet, Discuss AIDS

By Sue Hyde

BOSTON — About 60 women and a handful of men gathered in the basement of the Arlington St. Church on Sept. 21 to discuss how AIDS and AIDS hysteria affect women. The Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, sponsored the educational program, in part, to generate interest in a women's blood drive currently in planning stages, according to BL/GPA member and panel moderator Ann Maguire.

A panel of three speakers presented prepared remarks, followed by a question and answer period. Dr. Corrine Ganske, a physician associated with Fenway Community Health Center, delivered a thorough, but non-technical, lecture on the medical aspects of the disease. Dr. Ganske covered theories of transmission, described symptoms of AIDS and may have overwhelmed some audience members with statistics.

Two thousand two hundred fifty-nine cases of AIDS have been confirmed to date, with a 41 percent mortality rate, noted Ganske. Forty-two percent of the cases are in New York City and 71 percent of people with AIDS are gay or bisexual men. There are 40 confirmed cases in Massachusetts.

Dr. Ganske emphasized that, contrary to the impression left by some media reports, there is no risk factor for persons donating blood. She also made a broad point concerning casual social contact. "There have been no confirmed cases contracted through normal social contacts. We should maintain our friendships with gay men and not be afraid to make new ones. Nor should we shy away from involvement in support groups for people with AIDS."

Dr. Ganske reported 147 cases of AIDS in women. Of that number, 51 percent were IV drug users, and most of the remaining 49 percent had sexual partners who were at risk for AIDS.

Rhonda Linde, a staff psychologist from the Fenway Community Health Center, addressed the psychological aspects of AIDS and how gay men deal with their anxiety about the syndrome.

Linde explained that the lack of a reliable test for AIDS and its indefinite incubation period — a few months to four years — has created new anxieties among gay men. Closeted gay and bisexual men have to make a choice about coming out so their health care providers can look for AIDS symptoms. "Many people are getting forced out [of the closet]," she said.

Linde offered an explanation of anonymous sex in the gay male subculture based on her own work in therapeutic situations. She remarked that anonymous sex is not understood by many people and went on to give five reasons for its existence: for many it is an initial contact with the subculture; it exists as a recreational part of gay lifestyle; it is a nonthreatening way for men with anxiety about intimacy to be sexually and physically close with someone; compulsive tricksters use it as a way to "get

relief" for their sex addiction; it is the only option for closeted men who lead split lives.

Linde described three reactions she has seen in the gay male community. The first is extreme denial without examination of health risks under the assumption that AIDS is a ploy of the medical establishment. The second is extreme anxiety and paranoia, in which no reassurances can be offered and the man believes that his sexual activity deserves punishment. The third reaction is what Linde called "survivor's guilt," in which the man questions why he has lived when others have become ill or died.

Linde gave the community good marks for its response to the crisis, but warned against ostracizing people with AIDS. She urged that no value judgments be made about AIDS patients and urged women to become involved in the AIDS Action Committee at the Fenway Community Health Center.

Cindy Patton, managing editor of GCN, delivered the most personal statements of the evening. She described her initial reaction

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Panelists at the forum on AIDS and women are, from left, Cindy Patton, Rhonda Linde, Ann Maguire and Dr. Corrine Ganske.

News Notes

quote of the week

"Homosexuals have the most unearned sense of outrage and persecution of any American minority group."

"I don't like to see women with ankle bracelets or men wearing earrings."

A double zap this week, both of them by Boston *Globe* columnist Mike Barnicle in his Sept. 16 column. Those who would prefer to take Barnicle's homophobia up with the newspaper, may call the *Globe* ombudsman at 929-3020.

ames anti-bias ordinance misses

AMES, IOWA — A proposal to extend this city's civil rights code to include protection for gay men and lesbians died a quiet death last month. On August 23 at the City Council meeting, no council member seconded Charles Hammer's motion to adopt the proposed change. The measure had stirred up a lot of hot air in the city since it was proposed last May, but it had apparently dissipated by the time of the August council meeting.

toronto women's bookstore and abortion clinic torched

TORONTO — An arsonist torched the Toronto Women's Bookstore on July 29, destroying \$60,000 in stock and bringing a chapter of the city's feminist history to a violent and unexpected close, according to the *Body Politic*.

Apparently, the target of the attack was the new Toronto abortion clinic, located upstairs from the bookstore. Police had mounted a campaign of harassment raids beginning in July which has kept the clinic in the public eye since its June 20 opening. The arsonist set the fire in the basement of the building after failing to gain entrance to the clinic. Threats and abusive graffiti aimed at the clinic director were scrawled on the front door of the building.

The bookstore owners hope to reopen by the beginning of November. The abortion clinic remained open the day of the fire, its facilities having been undamaged by the blaze. The Ontario Coalition of Abortion Clinics has put aside other commitments to raise money for the store. Contributions and sentiments of support and outrage have poured into the owners, who estimate it will take another \$27,000 to reopen the store.

In the meantime, a large void is left in the Toronto lesbian/feminist community. According to a worker at the Lesbian Phoneline, "The Women's Bookstore is often one of the first places we send women who are coming out. It's a great concentration of community resources."

Donations can be made to the Toronto Women's Bookstore, 85 Harbord St., Toronto, ON M5S 1G4.

queers for peace and disarmament

BOSTON — Lesbians and gay men are encouraged to participate in non-violent civil disobedience at the Avco factory in Wilmington, Mass. on Oct. 24. The action is part of the international days of protest against the deployment of the Cruise and Pershing II missiles in Europe.

Avco is one of the dozens of manufacturing plants, laboratories, and test facilities which make up the Pentagon's Cruise and Pershing II weapons complex. The Oct. 24 action is aimed toward peaceful entry, and is intended to call public attention to the manufacturing of these first-strike weapons.

Participants must be in an affinity group, and must participate in training in non-violence. For information on lesbian/gay affinity groups, leave a message for Janice at 492-6446.

minor problems

LONDON — A new periodical from London, called *minor PROBLEMS: A Review for Intergenerational and Childhood Sexuality*, is now available from: BM minor PROBLEMS, G-B London, WC 1 N 3XX, England (\$6.50 for four issues by surface mail). The publication includes pieces on the politics of children's sexuality, news and information about the ongoing witchhunt in England (and around the world), and reviews of articles from other publications having information on childhood sexuality and intergenerational relations.

ohio programmer pleads guilty

CINCINNATI — One of the three "deprogrammers" who abducted a Cincinnati woman and attempted to remove her from the "mind control" of her roommate and suspected lover pleaded guilty to assault in the case, according to the *Advocate*.

James Roe, 27, accepted a reduced charge of assault on Aug. 5 from the Hamilton County (Ohio) Prosecutor's office and was sentenced to 40 days in jail.

In October, 1981, the parents of Stephanie Reithmiller reportedly paid \$8000 to three deprogrammers to cure Stephanie of her suspected lesbianism. Stephanie, 19 at the time, was maced and abducted from the sidewalk outside her apartment. She was held for a week in an Alabama house before being freed by police. Besides Roe, nationally known deprogrammer Ted Patrick and Naomi Goss were charged in the celebrated case.

Reithmiller's parents, William and Marita, were granted immunity for testifying, a move that angered the local gay and lesbian community.

Patrick was acquitted on abduction and assault charges. Roe was acquitted of assault and six counts of sexual battery. The jury, however, could not reach a decision on the felony abduction charges against Roe and Goss. At a retrial ordered by an Ohio appellate court, Roe pleaded "no contest" to the reduced charge of assault, a first-degree misdemeanor.

At his trial, Roe said he regretted any grief he had caused, had severed relations with Patrick and Goss, and wanted to get on with his life.

Stephanie Reithmiller has filed a civil suit against the three defendants and her parents, who are now divorced. She seeks a \$2.75 million settlement, claiming a permanent disability resulting from mental "torture" and Roe's six-day sexual harassment and rape of her, which Reithmiller says took place at the house in Alabama.

mobe goes for king

CAMBRIDGE — Mobilization for Survival announced on Sept. 15 that it has endorsed Mel King for mayor of Boston. This is Mobe's first endorsement of a candidate for public office. A spokeswoman noted that Mobe's precedent-setting endorsement of King is in recognition of his consistent and strong support for the peace movement and because he is "a champion of the concerns of working people and a courageous foe against racism, sexism and homophobia."

couple sues over aids bias

WASHINGTON — A suit against the National Institutes of Health has been filed by a Washington-area couple who claim they were harassed and humiliated at NIH where the man was being treated for AIDS, according to the *Washington Post*.

The \$2 million lawsuit says the woman's supervisors at NIH, where she is an employee, told her in June to stop having lunch with her lover at work and not to bring him into the building without clearance. Her lover was being treated for AIDS at the Bethesda-based NIH.

negotiations for new york center proceed

NEW YORK — Negotiations for transforming a city-owned building in the West Village into a gay and lesbian community center are proceeding slowly, but positively, according to the *New York Native*.

A number of gay groups have signed leases with the city for space in the building. According to one board member, the building will be purchased when those six-month leases expire. The building will be sold at its appraised value of \$2.5 million, according to a city official.

new haven aids group forms

NEW HAVEN — An organization has formed in this city to provide support and information to New Haven area residents who are concerned with and affected by the AIDS epidemic. The AIDS Project/New Haven (APNH) will raise funds for support projects for men with AIDS, educational projects and operational expenses. To contact them, write to PO Box 636, New Haven, CT 06503.

studs for girls only

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army has decreed that women in uniform may wear earrings — as long as they're not guady and "fit snugly against the ear." The new earring regulation specifies that acceptable earrings will be "spherical and unadorned, not to exceed one-quarter inch in diameter." They must be made of gold, silver or pearl and must be worn one to each ear. When asked about the possibility of men being allowed to sport their studs, an Army spokesman replied, "Are you kidding?"

rape victim released

NEW YORK — A State Supreme Court justice released a 36-year-old Queens man who was raped by inmates soon after he arrived at the House of Detention for Men at Rikers Island eight months ago, according to the *New York Times*.

Ernesto Insignares, the inmate, was convicted of selling two ounces of cocaine and faced a mandatory sentence of three years to life. Ordinarily, the sentence would be imposed without the possibility of parole. However, the judge who paroled him said, "The punishment meted out on the first night for this first offender constitutes a greater punishment for the crime than this court could legally or morally impose."

The judge also charged that the Department of Corrections had failed "to protect the defendant from the attack."

editorial is called 'cruel, vicious, distasteful'

OTTAWA — The Ontario Press Council, in the strongest judgment made in its eleven-year history, condemned an anti-gay editorial which appeared in the *Sarnia Observer*. The Council called the paper's actions cruel, vicious, dehumanizing, distasteful and unprofessional, according to the *Body Politic*.

The *Observer's* editorial, responding to a television program on the Armed Forces anti-gay witch-hunts, labelled lesbians and gay men as "another species," "moral degenerates," "wishy-washy types," and "a limp-wristed bunch of pansies."

Gays of Ottawa (GO), the group which filed the complaint against the paper, noted disappointment that no more concrete action than the condemnation could be taken by the Council. The *Observer* is only required to print the full text of the ruling.

"A newspaper can do injury to someone and the only recourse available is an opportunity for you to publicize that injury," said a GO spokesman.

nun with aids

LONDON — A former nun who died mysteriously in 1981 may have been one of the first victims of AIDS, according to a report in the British medical journal *Lancet*, and her case may provide an important clue to the link between the disease and Haiti.

The woman reportedly spent more than 30 years in Haiti, and left her order in 1972 to work in Port-au-Prince rehabilitating prostitutes.

"She left Haiti in November 1979, which suggests that AIDS was present in that country even before the first cases were described in male homosexuals," said the authors of the report. The doctors said the former nun had one sexual contact while she was in Haiti, but, they added, "no other risk factor except residence in Haiti was present."

bar records may be subpoenaed in race discrimination hearing

SAN FRANCISCO — Employment records of up to 100 of the city's 200-plus gay bars may be subpoenaed by the city's Human Rights Commission, which is currently hearing charges that gay bars discriminate against non-white gays in hiring policies, according to the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The Task Force on Racism in the Lesbian/Gay Community accused the Tavern Guild of being "uncooperative" in efforts to integrate the workforce of the city's gay bars. A committee of the Human Rights Commission, the Gay Advisory Committee, unanimously requested the Commission take up the issue. The Tavern Guild is composed of the owners of virtually every gay bar in the city.

Connecting Peace with Other Issues

Council Okays 'Nuke Free' Question

By Janice Irvine

CAMBRIDGE — If supporters of the Nuclear Free Cambridge Campaign (NFCC) have their way, Cambridge could become a city where "arms are for hugging." Their goal became more attainable on Sept. 19, when the Cambridge City Council reversed their earlier position, and voted to allow a referendum making Cambridge a nuclear-free zone to be placed on the November ballot.

The Nuclear Free Cambridge Act, sponsored by Mobilization for Survival (Mobe), is a binding referendum that would ban all work on nuclear weapons in Cambridge, and facilitate the conversion of affected companies to socially useful peacetime industry.

Although some communities have already declared themselves nuclear-free zones, the Cambridge campaign represents the first attempt at a binding referendum in a city where weapons research is actually carried out. According to Susan Levene, a staff person for Mobe, "This would set an international precedent. It would be the first time in the world where a city interrupted nuclear weapons work."

NFCC is an ambitious and historical project. Like the legal defense used by the women at the Seneca Peace Encampment (*GCN*, Vol. 11, No. 9), the test of the Act draws upon the Nuremberg Principles, which holds individuals accountable for crimes against humanity, and it states that "in adopting this ordinance this community seeks to end its complicity with preparations for fighting a nuclear war."

Yet in a series of point-counterpoint moves (see box), Draper Lab, a major opponent of the ordinance, has attempted to keep the referendum off the ballot. Nuclear weapons research accounts for 85 percent of Draper's annual budget, and they recently received a \$1 billion navy contract to enhance the accuracy of Trident submarine launched missile warheads.

After the Monday city council vote which placed the referendum on the ballot, Joseph O'Connor, vice-president of the lab, told *GCN* that Draper has no plans to appeal the decision, and so it seems the referendum will appear on Nov. 8. Yet Draper's incessant legal challenges have functioned to divert public dialogue and obscure the nature of the major issues of the referendum.

Levene notes, "Part of the difficulty is that we've had a hard time shaping the terms of the debate. Draper would like to keep [the referendum] tied up in court, focus on the peripheral issues, and shut down discussion of issues of war and peace, and their own role in the arms race."

Although on the surface the fight shapes up as NFCC vs. Draper, in fact, the vision of a nuclear-free Cambridge goes far beyond stopping Draper's weapons work. According to Levene, one major issue is "the militarization of our communities. Some of the values and the macho style cultivated in militarization are part of the same system that sustains racism, sexism and homophobia. By extension, NFCC is a challenge to broader power relations and institutions."

In a major canvass and educational outreach to Cambridge residents, campaign workers typically attempt to draw some of these larger connections. Levene said, "People are recognizing how the nuclear industry and militarization in general are shaping the lives of our communities. I don't think we've found anyone who doesn't care. They all know the arms race affects them, military spending affects them, and they all have a stake in this decision."

Ultimately, much of the controversy is about who con-

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN NUCLEAR FREE CAMBRIDGE CAMPAIGN

March, 1983: The Nuclear Free Cambridge Campaign (NFCC) is officially launched.

May 21: NFCC workers have a champagne celebration in honor of having gathered enough signatures to put their referendum on the ballot. Signature gathering continues through July, however, to ensure a sufficient number should there be a challenge.

July 19: NFCC submits a petition with 5800 signatures to the Cambridge Election Commission to place the nuclear free Cambridge referendum on the Nov. ballot.

July 25: Cambridge Election Commission validates signatures and certifies the petition.

July 28: Draper Lab files a complaint with the State Ballot Law Commission charging "irregularities" in the validation process.

August 2: The State Ballot Law Commission dismisses Draper's objections to NFCC petitions.

Aug. 8: The initiative comes before the Cambridge City Council, which votes 4-4, with one abstention, that it will not be placed on the ballot.

Aug. 17: Dan Petegorsky, representing Mobilization for Survival, files suit against the Cambridge City Council, alleging that the council has no authority under state law to keep the question off the ballot.

Aug. 24: In a single-Justice session of the State Judicial Court, Judge Ruth Abrams refers the issue to a hearing before a full session of the court.

Sept. 12: MIT files a friend of the court brief stating that the ordinance would violate constitutional rights to freedom, thought and expression.

Sept. 13: The suit against the Cambridge City Council is heard before a full session of the State Judicial Court.

Sept. 19: After a ruling by the ethics committee that a city councilor who had previously abstained due to potential conflict of interest would be allowed to vote, the Cambridge City Council holds another hearing on whether to include the referendum on the Nov. 8 ballot. The vote is 5-2-2 in favor.

trols decision-making. Levene said, "A lot of what we want to do is question how technology should be used. We believe the public has a right to make that decision. We see this campaign as a part of a larger process of the public having a voice in demanding some sort of accountability in federal priorities."

Draper, however, has consistently opposed such community control, and has raised issues about its First Amendment right to conduct research. O'Connor told *GCN* that the issue is: "Does a community have a right to pass into law a statute that would see employees of an institution fined and imprisoned for engaging in tasks that have been authorized by the Congress of the United States? We don't think a community or a small group of people have that power."

As it stands now, however, Cambridge residents will be able to vote on the question of a nuclear-free Cambridge. O'Connor said, "'Nuclear' is a very loaded word and people tend to react negatively. But I don't think it will win if the voters of Cambridge listen fully to both sides of this." He also told *GCN* that Draper would appeal if the referendum wins.

Whatever the outcome at the polls, however, NFCC has already made a significant impact. The campaign has com-

manded international attention and sparked scores of similar drives for nuclear-free zones across the country. It is a growing tide within a larger peace movement that increasingly attempts to connect with other issues and movements for social change.

Levene notes, "Draper is the epitome of centralized power, with a rigid hierarchy and lack of public access, that touches the core of what feminism opposes. The effort to democratize our institutions and to achieve community decision-making connects to efforts to break down the hierarchies and oppressive power relations that we as feminists and lesbians are also fighting against. We're talking about re-claiming control, whether it's of our future, our bodies, or who we love."

Levene is optimistic about the chances of the referendum at the polls. In 1981, 74 percent of Cambridge voters approved a non-binding referendum calling for a stop to nuclear weapons work. The 1981 vote and ongoing support for the current campaign make clear, as Levene said, "If the government is going to continue its arms buildup, it will have to do it over the active opposition of its people."

You can contact the Nuclear Free Cambridge Campaign at Mobilization for Survival (617) 354-0008, 727 Mass. Ave. Cambridge.

Banner Refuses Gay Group's Ad

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — The Bay State *Banner*, a Boston-based conservative black weekly, has refused to accept paid advertising for the Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance.

The Alliance placed orders for advertisements last month in several weekly neighborhood newspapers, including the *TAB*, the *Ledger*, the *South End News*, and the *Banner*. The advertisement, headed "Last Call for Voter Registration" and featuring a list of locations for registration throughout the city, also included information on membership in the Alliance.

Alliance Treasurer Tim McFeeley received a letter from *Banner* associate publisher Cheryl Landy saying that the advertisement had not met with the approval of publisher Melvin Miller. McFeeley says he spoke with Landy on the telephone to discuss the ad, and says Landy called the ad "discriminatory," and said she was "not interested in marketing the Alliance in our paper."

McFeeley then requested a meeting with Miller to discuss the paper's ad policy and its attitudes toward the lesbian and gay community. Miller telephoned McFeeley, however, to say that he

thought such a meeting would be unnecessary. "[He said] he could decide who advertised in his paper," McFeeley told *GCN*. "[He said] he did not believe that political alliances should be formed around sexual practices."

When contacted by *GCN*, Miller refused to comment on the advertisement. "Hey, you can report whatever you like," he said.

McFeeley said the Alliance can take no legal recourse against the paper, but he said he did tell Miller that the Alliance has "an obligation to let as many people know as possible" about the rejection of the ad.

Miller has been criticized in the past for expressing sexist and homophobic views in *Banner* editorials. He has most recently come under fire for supporting David Finnegan, a white conservative, in the race for mayor of Boston. Miller has argued against supporting Mel King, a black progressive, claiming that King cannot win because too few voters in Boston are black.

The Boston *Black Advocate*, a monthly newspaper formed as an alternative to the *Banner*, recently published its first issue. McFeeley said the Alliance had not yet considered advertising in the new paper.



Julie Palmer

Lesbians Zap U.S. Intervention Policy

BOSTON — An ad hoc group of feminist lesbian activists staged this zap action in front of the apartment buildings located at Storrow Drive and the Expressway early on Sept. 15. The signs help up in front of the Charles River Plaza read: "If you lived in El Salvador, you'd be dead now. U.S. out of El Salvador." The Burma Shave-style zap parodied the apartment building complex ad which reads: "If you lived here, you'd be home now." The Central America Solidarity Association declared a national day of solidarity, called Peace with Justice in Central American, to celebrate Independence Day, when Central America was freed from Spain's colonial rule. A spokeswoman for CASA said 200 actions took place in the United States and Europe.

Speaking Out

Beyond District #8

By Eric E. Rofes, Chairperson, Boston Lesbian & Gay Political Alliance

Perhaps the chief focus for the Boston Lesbian & Gay Political Alliance in 1984 will be the drafting and passage of a city ordinance and an accompanying home rule petition, that will protect gay people from discrimination in the city of Boston. While some activists downplay the importance of such an ordinance, it appears clear that the passage of such ordinances in other cities has served a dual function: protecting individual lesbians and gay men from losing their jobs, housing, and city services, as well as educating the public at-large about the local lesbian and gay community. Preliminary work on the drafting of such an ordinance won't begin until after the fall elections and after a community-wide meeting has been held to discuss suitable organizing strategies. Gay men and lesbians in other cities, however, have seen the importance of scrutinizing candidates for city council and supporting those men and women who will support such issues.

Much attention has been given in *GCN* to the race for Boston mayor and the race for the City Council seat in District #8 (Back Bay-Beacon Hill-Fenway-Mission Hill). This is not surprising, as these are the two races in which gay voters are heavily involved in specific campaigns and these are essential races to win if we hope to elect a city government that is supportive of our issues. Contrary to what many people might think, however, we could elect a mayor who will sign a gay rights ordinance, and a councilor from District 8 who will lead the fight and sponsor the ordinance, but unless we have supportive councilors elected in at least 6 of the remaining 12 council positions, our ordinance won't pass. Drawing attention away from the District 8 race and the race for the mayoralty, for the moment, will allow us to look at the prospects for electing a city council that will support an anti-discrimination ordinance.

The Alliance sent questionnaires to all candidates for City Council and has been tabulating the results and distributing this information throughout the summer months. Almost 75 percent of the candidates have responded to the questionnaires and those who haven't responded live in primarily three districts. Candidates were asked "Do you support and would you work for the passage of a City of Boston ordinance which would ban discrimination in housing, employment, the provision of credit, and the provision of city services on the basis of sexual preference?"

Currently, it appears likely that we will have a foundation of at least five supportive votes to build on from the new city council. We need seven votes for passage.

All candidates from District 7 (Roxbury) and District 8 (Back Bay-Beacon Hill-Fenway-Mission Hill), support the passage of an ordinance protecting gay men and lesbians. It is likely, also, that the candidate from District 4 (Dorchester-West) will support the ordinance as four of the five candidates have responded to the Alliance questionnaire and all are supportive. The remaining two votes that we can count on are from the at-large candidates, and it is here that our situation begins to get interesting.

There are nine candidates for the four At-large seats on the City Council. All except two of these candidates pledge support for an anti-discrimination ordinance. These two men, Joseph Tierney and Dapper O'Neil, haven't even seriously responded to the Alliance questionnaire (Dapper sent a one sentence response: "No way do I support gay and lesbian rights."), despite the fact they are incumbents and expected to represent all the citizens of the city. The other incumbents running for At-large seats — Mike McCormack, Terry McDermott, Chris Ianella — are all supportive, as are the other candidates in the race, Jean Sullivan McKeigue, Les Payne, Althea Garrison and Willie Allen. It appears likely that an anti-discrimination ordinance will get a positive vote from at least two of the four At-large councilors and, if we can succeed in defeating O'Neil and/or Tierney, perhaps three or four votes will come our way.

If we count on these two votes, and the additional three votes from District 4, 7, 8, where will we get the other two needed for passage? Leaving aside the likelihood of getting an additional at-large vote by defeating Tierney or O'Neil, the possibilities are still good, but require that we put some energy and exert some influence into some of the other district races. The most likely districts to elect supportive councilors appear to be District 1 (East Boston-North End-Charlestown), District 2 (South End-South Boston) and District 9 (Allston-Brighton). Gay people in these neighborhoods ultimately might wield the influence to make for passage of the ordinance.

District 1 has traditionally been a place where gay rights has gotten surprising support,

considering the strong Roman Catholic population of the North End and East Boston, and aware of the active and aware lesbian and gay population in that district. Gay voters in from these neighborhoods — State Senator Mike LoPresti, Representative Gus Serra and Sal DiMasi — are all sponsors of the state's gay rights bill, and the candidates for City Council appear willing to follow suit. Responses to the Alliance questionnaire have been received from five of the six candidates (Modica, Coughlin, Cinseruli, Travaglini and Reardon) and all would support such an ordinance. Only Capucci has failed to respond. If these five candidates can keep their word, we might be able to expect a supportive vote from District 1.

District 2 should be a district able to elect a city councilor supportive of gay rights, primarily because it includes the South End and Bay Village, neighborhoods with considerable gay voters and, in fact, neighborhoods that have produced significant numbers of lesbians and gay activities. These neighborhoods, however, have been tied to South Boston in this city council districting plan. Thus we find three candidates running for office in the district — the South End's Chris Hayes, who would strongly support such an ordinance, Jimmy Kelly of South Boston, who did respond to the Alliance questionnaire and stated "I would have to say that at this time, I cannot see myself in support of this type of ordinance," and Michael Taylor, also of South Boston, who has yet to respond to the questionnaire. If gay rights supporters in this district want to gain a councilor who will support the ordinance, they will have to elect Hayes or find a way to convince Kelly to support the ordinance.

District 9, Allston-Brighton, is a district where rapid organization of gays and lesbians is taking place, largely through the efforts of activist Sandy Smith and the Allston-Brighton Gay and Lesbian Neighbors. Two candidates for the seat have stated that they would support an ordinance — McLaughlin and Izzo — and two candidates haven't responded to the questionnaire — Franklin and Melia. Gay people in Allston-Brighton should meet with all the candidates before the primary and urge them to pledge support.

Thus it appears possible that the community can attain the seven votes necessary to push an ordinance through the new city council: by electing two At-large candidates and councilors from Districts 4, 7 and 8 supportive of gay rights, and finding an additional two votes from either additional friendly At-large councilors or from supportive candidates in Districts 1, 2, and 9.

Which districts will be probably lose? If response to Alliance inquiries is any indication, the councilors from District 3 (Dorchester — East), 5 (Hyde Park-Roslindale) and 6 (Jamaica Plain-West Roxbury), won't even talk to our community. The only candidate for city council in these three districts to return a questionnaire was Carol Geyer, candidate in Dorchester's District 3, who stated that she would support an ordinance. Incumbent councilor Maura Hennigan — thought by some to be supportive — is now running in her West Roxbury district and has not returned her questionnaire. Significant work will need to be done by residents of these districts to make candidates feel accountable to their lesbian and gay constituencies.

What can lesbians and gay men do to help elect a supportive city council? Now is the time to ask questions of candidates — either at public candidates' nights or through letters, postcards and personal meetings. Gay men and lesbians in Jamaica Plain, for example, might consider directing some energy towards their city council candidates to make them aware of the active and aware lesbian and gay population in that district. Gay voters in other neighborhoods — especially West Roxbury, Hyde Park, Roslindale, Allston-Brighton, Dorchester (East), and South Boston — ought to contact candidates (even anonymously) and express concern for lesbian and gay issues.

The work necessary to insure passage of an anti-discrimination ordinance is significant and recent battles in New York City, Baltimore and Lincoln, Nebraska, make it clear that politicians who pledge "friendly" votes before elections sometimes sleaze out of their commitments and end up on the other side of the fence. Because of the advent of district elections, Boston will gain an anti-discrimination ordinance only when lesbians and gay men become visible to politicians *throughout* the city's neighborhoods and do not leave gay rights as an issue solely for city-wide office-holders or elected officials from the "liberal" neighborhoods. Progress is being made during this election, but the extent and the impact of the progress is dependent upon our energy and our organization.

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Nightmares and Dreams

By Nancy Wechsler

I had a nightmare the other night that the third world war was going to start over the race to get the little black box from the Korean airliner the Russians downed a few weeks back. The US, Russia and Japan all have ships in the area trying to recover the thing. My guess is that all the countries involved in this thing have lied, and the little black box might actually contain some truths. Each country wants to get its hands on it. . . and release its version of the truth. There's no particular team I'm rooting for in this race. . .

The whole world feels a bit trigger happy lately, doesn't it? The arms race and particularly US muscle-flexing has created a mentality where war seems like reasonable behavior. If the war in Chad wasn't enough, we have renewed "conflicts" in Lebanon, continued fighting in Afghanistan, US funded counter-revolutionaries battling to overthrow the government of Nicaragua, and of course the ships racing to get to the little black box.

The only glimmer of hope I feel in a world torn apart by conflict is the growing discontent in Chile. (The discontent in Poland also is a positive sign.) Maybe, in my lifetime, Pinochet will be overthrown. Ten years ago this month the social-democratic government of Salvador Allende was overthrown by a CIA-backed military coup. People there had just begun to taste some real freedoms, had begun to participate in building the country to meet the needs of its people. And then the coup. Ten years of fascist dictatorship. Ten years of people's lives — for those who lived through the coup — lived under some of the worst possible conditions.

Protests against Pinochet have increased over the last several months. He seems on his way out. I hope this will be the end of the dictatorship, not just a shuffle of personnel at the top levels. When Pinochet goes, my heart will feel a little lighter.

It is hard sometimes to complain about life in the US when you think about the people in Chile or El Salvador. But many of the attitudes and policies that alienate me living here are what allows the US to continue its military support for right-wing regimes abroad. So everything really *is* connected, and unless our country's politics shift dramatically, other countries will continue to have difficult times sustaining free and social-democratic governments.

We really could have good housing, good health care, affordable child care — we could even get the red line of the MBTA running right (the green line might be too far gone) if we had the chance to put our tax dollars into these human services rather than the MX. Can you imagine the difference that would make in the quality of our lives?

One of the many things that bothers me about the Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance is their single-issue focus on candidates' support or lack of support for a gay rights ordinance. While this is important — and sometimes signals their views on other issues — it doesn't always tell us *all* we really should want to know about the candidate. We are whole people, not just gays and lesbians. While being queer affects everything we do and how we are in the world — other things effect us also. Where do these candidates stand on the death penalty, on racism, on good housing, public education, the right to abortion, affirmative action? Don't we need to know all that before we vote?

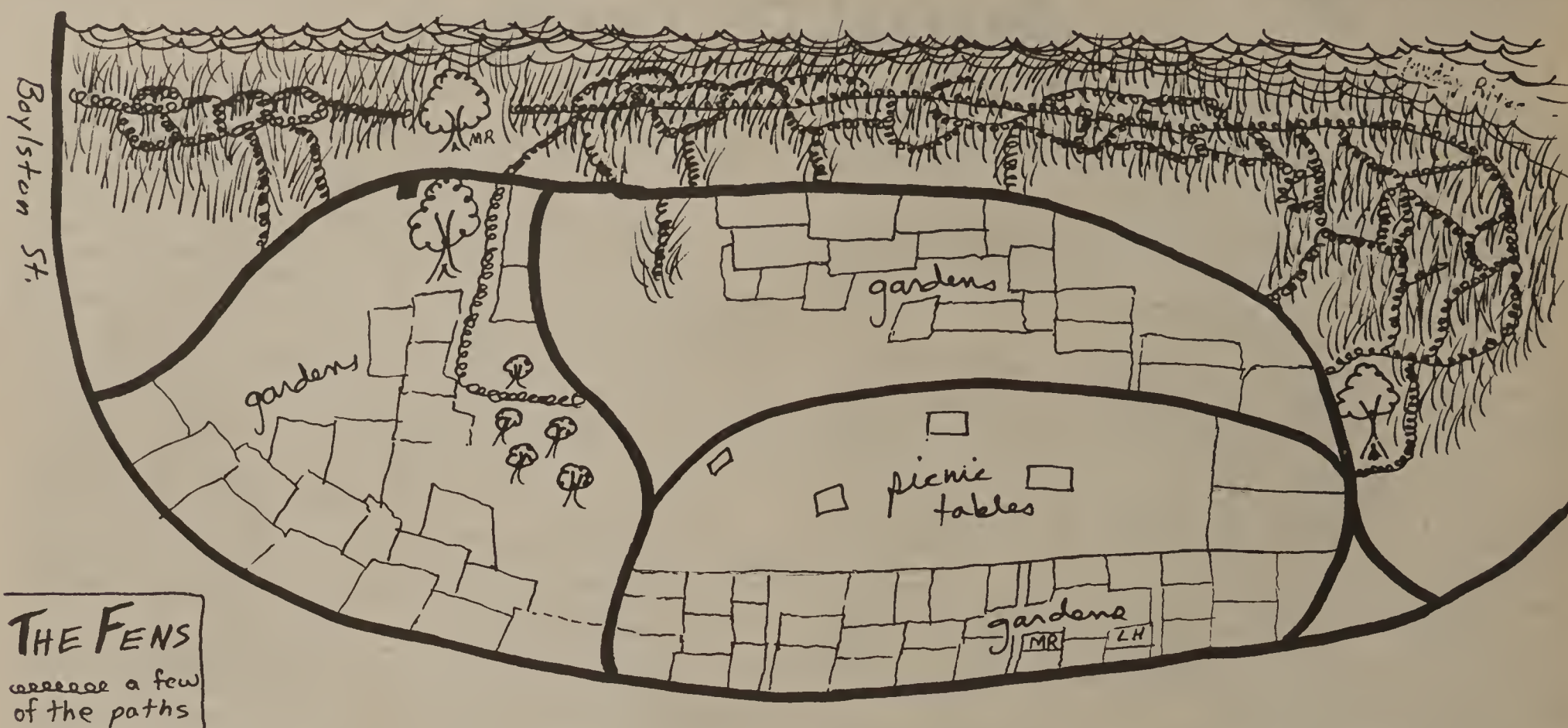
But it is not just BLGPA which seems a bit off in this election. Several people and groups who consider themselves leftists and progressives are working for Ray Flynn for mayor. (Luckily for all of our sakes — some parts of the left and progressive movements are *not* working for Flynn, and are in fact working for Mel King. Others are working on other electoral campaigns, such as Nuclear Free Cambridge.) In an article in *In These Times* (Sept. 7) Peter Dreier, of the Democratic Socialists of America, argues that both Ray Flynn and Mel King are "candidates of the left," but that Flynn should be supported because not only can he win, but he is the only candidate that can unite the city. It depresses me to see racism and sexism in such a blatant form.

Flynn can unite only those who want to trivialize the women's movement and the fight against racism. Flynn can do nothing but cause sharp divisions within this city. As a state representative Ray Flynn co-sponsored the Doyle-Flynn bill which prohibited the use of state funding for abortions. That means the bill cut off medicaid funding for abortions, as well as cancelled the abortion coverage in the health insurance of state employees. An attack on a woman's right to abortion is a fundamental attack on women's autonomy, and an attack on all the goals of the women's movement. An attack on medicaid funding for abortions is a direct attack on poor women, most of whom are women of color. Let us not forget Ray Flynn led that attack. Let us also not forget his vehement anti-bussing speeches during the Boston school bussing crisis, nor his anti-gay attitudes as a state representative.

Lest anyone think I'm in a complete state of despair — I'm not. Through all the various assaults on all our lives, people keep going. Friends in Cambridge have taken on the military-industrial-complex (Draper Labs) and are asking Cambridge voters to declare their city a Nuclear Free Zone in this upcoming election. Black feminists have found the time, energy, strength and money to publish *Home Girls, a Black Feminist Anthology*. Rep. Gerry Studds not only said he was gay, he said he was *proud* that he was gay. *GCN* manages to keep coming out every week. Someone on the street the other day told me they *really liked* my *GCN* T-shirt, and another person wanted to buy one for himself. My local town of Somerville — known as one of the more racist parts of the Boston area — seems to be changing a bit. Not only are there more black families living there than ten years ago, but my very own eyes can verify the fact that, on occasion, there exist integrated gangs hanging out on street corners. If you live in Somerville, you know that that is surely a hopeful sign.

"Speaking Out" is part of our continuing effort to provide a true forum of opinion for the community. We encourage you to send your ideas, feelings and comments to us and we encourage you to respond to any ideas expressed in this space. Submissions to "Speaking Out" should be TYPED and DOUBLE SPACED, and, if possible, held to under 5 pages in length. The opinions expressed in "Speaking Out" do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper, the staff or the advertisers. Write c/o Speaking Out, GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111

The Fens: A Political and Sexual Cruise



THE FENS
are a few
of the paths

By Larry Hitt and Mike Riegle

"Home again!" I half thought to myself, turning down the dirt path off the Boylston bridge into the fens. Someone was leaving alone. Had he connected or not? I tried to tell by his walk and his look. (I feel like I walk different on my way out if I've had a good night. Don't you look different after a good meal than when you're hungry?)

We come from all over the city, the state, New England and beyond. Some of us are here (at least "passing through") almost nightly, others weekly, others whenever.

We come in wondering what Prince Charming, what King Kong, what threesome, what eightsome, what color flesh, what age we'll be into tonight and

whether or not some gang of queerbashers (maybe from a Red Sox game across the way), or some muggers looking for a few bucks, or the cops will come through flashing their spots. (Desperate for some contact? Trying to be equal to us by stopping our sex instead of by joining in? "If we can't do it, neither can you.")

No cover, No minimum

The fens is *bad for business* (or at least it's not *good* for business). No cover, no minimum. Someone wrote recently in GCN comparing the liberation politics of the "fringe queers" (drag queens and "downtown types" who fought back in the Stonewall Rebellion) to the legislative and commercial-politics of many current mainstream gays, and I thought to

myself, "It's actually these Fenway queens that are the 'core queers', and the straight gays that are on the 'fringe'."

Minors are not prohibited. Even husbands come there often. Some of us never make a sound (not even a moan when they come); others come in small groups chattering and screaming queenly, "Oh Mary! Look at that!" Some have their favorite perches, some keep moving.

Lovers have been known to run into each other unexpectedly, and cause quite the stir. "Don't you dare! Let me go!" Early morning in the Fens is probably as safe as this city gets. One veteran of the reeds assures us that he has never had any trouble here in the mornings. Weekdays from 5 AM to 8 AM can be lively. Saturdays are even better. And

Sunday mornings are very heaven. Where else can you meet a man who has just dropped off the wife and kids at early mass and stopped by for a little celebration of his own?

answered!") are getting into telephone sex; tickles in your ear instead of your groin, a delicacy of eares I have yet to fully appreciate, and a long way from some of the wordless encounters

I found a rare, but not extinct, spirit one cold night last February: we were sliding across the ice while fucking and after we came he said: "There, that oughta warm things up a little!"

AIDS Publicity Blitz and Winter

Traffic is slowing down a bit these days. The AIDS terrorism is taking its toll. Many lack the imagination to have sex in ways other than by ingesting cum. Some of my hottest tricks (who'd never give me their home number before - "What if my lover

of come-hither looks, sex and a pat on the butt and smile after.

And the coming on of cold weather slows down all but the hard-core and the renegades-of-a-night, out to "show him they can have a good time tonight without him!" I found a rare but not ex-

Continued on page 15

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“Freedom’s Just...” A System of Slavery in the Real

For the time being “Freedom’s Just...” (from Janis’ refrain “Freedom’s just another word...” will be the name of this space where prisoners mainly (but others too, now and then) will speak out about their experience with our “criminal justice” (social control) business.

Also, every week there is a “Prisoners Seeking Friends” space, generally near the calendar page or the classifieds. Like everyone else, they need some contact and support just to keep some sense of “community” in their heads. Rarely are they inside for acts of violence. That most of you think they are shows how well the system works. Even more than people on the outside, they have to choose: hide your feelings or prepare to fight. Give yourselves a chance to get to know some people who may teach you something you don’t know about the world you live in.

Mike Riegle
GCN Prisoner Project



By Shaka M. M. Zulu

It's been a few days now since I first received your letter to prisoners requesting that they write some and let you know how they are doing and about the goings on inside because there's thousands of people out there who want to know. Well, I have thought about this matter very strongly and I have decided to try my best to relate what its like to be in prison when you have a outlook on life such as mine.

I am an African. I was brought up in the streets of Connecticut, New York, and other large cities in this country, mainly on my own. My outlook on life was, all that was needed was to survive, mainly at the expense of another. So I pimped, strong armed, did stickups, broke in houses, sold drugs, ran long and short con, sold slum jewelry, and was a male prostitute. I picked pockets and had women cashing checks. I used almost every kind of drug that most street people used.

All this time I was going on in this manner there was main talk about how fucked homos was, out one side of their neck, how they was no good. I even read a note by one of the group that stated all faggots need to be killed. Then on the other hand, all would sneak and get their dick sucked...

I come to prison and for the first time I start hearing about why my life was the way it was/is, why I came to have this kind of mentality, and what this meant to the people who were/are in the same position I'm in. This information was so strong to me that I took off with it. I wanted to read everything I could get my hands on that had to do with revolutionary movement and the struggle of oppressed peoples all over the world, in all manners of oppression. I so strongly identified with this new understanding in life as it pertains to how the world is,

that I became an action-minded prisoner, a prisoner who took action when it was called for by the prisoners who were leading me. I was shown that one must not think domestically only but as a member of humankind. I was schooled about Hitler as it related to gays, something I had never knew.

All this time I was going in this manner there was main talk about how fucked homos was, out one side of their neck, how they was no good. I even read a note by one of the group that stated all faggots need to be killed, etc. Then on the

other hand, all would sneak and get their dick sucked or would speak on another prisoner walking down the hall who's ass was big, about how they would like to get into their ass etc. At meetings the subject of sexual freedom never came up. If it was, it was only in passing, such as homos are sick people etc. Now dig on this, here I am a prisoner who has known homos and who is or could be classified as bi, hearing all this, but my willingness to make this stand was not there, I did not have the heart to make a stand on this matter. There were a few times I stated, asked the question, when there's a revolution for real freedom, who were going to be the ones who decided who was going to be free and who was not going to be free, a question that put most in a position of not wanting to speak on it. I also started looking at the fact that in most of the reading I was getting there was nothing in it about sexual freedom, freedom for homos, etc. Since I have never been the kind of person who spoke on sex that I had or would like to have, no matter if it was with a woman or man, I never got into this kind of talk in here, where the female of human kind are referred to as “my bitch, that bitch, them bitches, or ho's.” I would also use these terms until it got so I no longer felt I could use such and not feel bad inside, but never talked about what I did or liked sexually with the fellahs, why I don't know. So any time I

for falling in line for one of the tactics which was used in the 60s by the FBI program COINTELPRO under J. Edgar Hoover, to wipe out the Black Power movement in the USA. The tactic was character assassination, in the eyes of those I, at that time, felt were about the business of



training their minds for the freedom of all human kind. The pigs here use this tactic and other prisoners were their tool many of the times. That finally became clear to me after I read a book called *Animal Farm*, by George Orwell. So I started to think about this and I kept thinking could this be the kind of people who were in organizations outside these walls, who say they're fighting oppression.

I also never could get out of my mind that if there was a change in power and these people were in

There were a few times I asked the question, when there's a revolution for real freedom, who were going to be the ones who decided who was going to be free...a question that put most in a position of not wanting to speak on it.

had sexual activity in here I always kept it to myself and did not like others getting into what I felt was personal life. I was to find out as time went on this opened the door

control then most likely I would die along with all the other homos, no matter that I put my life on the line etc. So this left me

Continued on page 16

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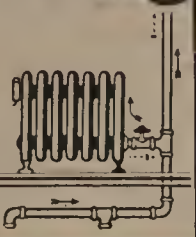
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(Reprinted from Real Paper, "Best of Boston," Fall, 1980)

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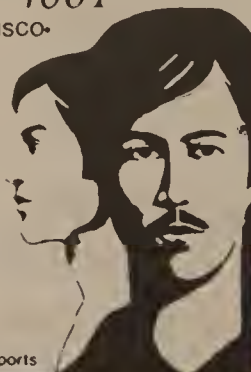
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Nancy Wechsler



New Words Bookstore's basement had standing-room-only crowds on September 15 as Kate Rushin (left) and Marita Golden (right) read selections of their works. Marita Golden read from her recently published autobiographical work *Migrations of the Heart*, which deals with her reflections on growing up, losing both her parents by the age of twenty-three, rushing into a marriage, moving to Nigeria and experiencing living in a black country, and then coming back to the United States. Kate Rushin, best known for her poetry, read selections from a short story she's been working on, as well as a moving selection of new and older poems. Several of her poems appear in *Kitchen Table*, Women of Color Press's recently published book *Home Girls*, a *Black Feminist Anthology*, edited by Barbara Smith.

Body Politic

Continued from page 1

ment of *The Body Politic*. McMurtry told a radio reporter, "The issue before the court is a very serious one, when one considers that some people are of the view, not only in Canada but internationally, that sexual abuse of children should not be allowed by law... I regret very much, as anyone else, that the matter went on as long as it did..."

Chris Bearehell does not share McMurtry's view. "The case speaks for itself as far as the Provincial Government is concerned. There are certain subjects about which one is not to hold any but condemnatory opinions. Those who dare to defy that can suffer the consequences."

The six-year-long consequences for *The Body Politic* have included two police raids, a second charge involving an article on fistfucking, \$105,000 in legal expenses paid for with money donated by supporters of the magazine, and, as Bearehell

put it, "the overall strain of continuing to publish as the times get more and more repressive."

The magazine's attorney, Clayton Ruby noted that *The Body Politic* case is the most appealed summary case in the history of Canadian law. Summary cases are the lesser of two charges in Canada, the other being "indictable."

Through the two raids and the unrelenting court schedule, the collective missed only one issue's deadline. Bearehell said the issue immediately following the first raid was two weeks late, but "our publishing schedule has never been more disrupted than that."

Bearehell and others in the Toronto gay community worry about the increasing repression of gay men and lesbians by the Tory government. Bearehell noted that proposed revisions of the criminal code have stirred up a "general agitation" that fits neatly into the

repressive political climate of Toronto and Canada.

"The most specific way that anyone in the Toronto gay community, including *The Body Politic*, has felt that is through the abuse of police powers that have run the gamut from the raiding of our offices on both charges to the raiding of the baths and arresting of hundreds of men there. The total number of arrests they've made on gay related charges since the raid on *The Body Politic* has been staggering."

— filed from Boston

Have a Question?
**BOSTON LESBIAN AND
GAY HOTLINE**
6pm-Midnight, Mon-Fri
(617) 426-9371

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GayCommunity News

THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES

Notes

Compiled by Michael Bronski
and Jeremy Grainger.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Homosexuals know that what most of the straight world believes about them is nonsense."
— Joseph Hansen, author of *Job's Year* and the Dave Bradsetter mysteries, in *Ellery Queen*, the most famous of the pulp mystery mags. (The magazine is noted for its conservative politics and reactionary attitudes about sex: the times they are a changing).

Conferences

The **Reproductive Rights National Network's** (R2N2) annual conference will be held October 7 to 9 at Barnard College in New York City. The theme for this year's conference will be **Combating Racism: Strengthening Local Work**. Along with a panel on combatting racism, there will be two other panels, on teenage sexuality and on disability, many different workshops, a plenary session and special evening program on "Building an Anti-Racist/Multi-Cultural Women's Movement." This program will be held Saturday 7:30-9:30 PM in Barnard Hall and will be open to the public as well as to conference-goers.

The fee for the weekend conference is \$35 or \$30 low income with some financial assistance available. Childcare and housing is available by advance registration. If you will not be pre-registering for the conference and need housing or childcare, phone the R2N2 national office at least a week before the conference. To obtain more information or to pre-register contact R2N2, 17 Murray St., New York, NY 10007, (212) 267-8891.

Developing a Positive Lesbian/Gay Identity will be the theme for a conference at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, October 7 to 8. The conference will feature a keynote address by **Mary Borhek**, author of *My Son Eric* and the recently released *Coming Out to Parents*, a panel on **New Political Realities: Our Power at the Polls** with San Francisco Supervisor **Harry Britt**, Minnesota State Representa-

tive **Karen Clark** and State Senator **Allan Spear** as well as workshops.
For more information on the conference contact Lesbian and Gay Community Services, 124 West Lake Street, Suite E, Minneapolis, MN 55408, (612) 827-5614.

Health Crisis Rodeo

The **World's Toughest Rodeo** will be held in Madison Square Garden, Saturday, October 1 at 8 PM. The rough riding, cow-tying and lord-knows-what-else is all to benefit **Gay Men's Health Crisis Inc.** If this is anything like GMHC's last fundraising extravaganza, the circus held last April, the event is bound to be a sell-out.
So rustle up some dough, round up yer pardners and head on down to the Madison Square Corral. Prices range from \$10 to \$500, though I'm sure they'll take more. VISA and MasterCard (include number and expiration date) as well as personal checks are accepted.
Send ticket orders to: Gay Men's Health Crisis, Inc., Box 200, 132 West 24th Street, New York, NY 10011 or phone (212) 807-7517.

May Sarton Goes to Hollywood

The motion picture options for May Sarton's **Mrs. Stevens Hears the Mermaids Singing** have been acquired by Linda Thornburg who, together with her partner Lynn Dimetrapp, has begun pre-production on the feature film. They hope to have it in full swing by mid-1984.
Mrs. Stevens is the story of a middle-aged poet who, in the wake of an upcoming interview, reviews her life and her relationships and realizes that her muse has always been women. Sarton's novel, published in 1965, was considered advanced for its level-headed presentation of a woman loving women and has gained enormous popularity with gay readers over the years.

Cowardly Season

The Huntington Theater Company will be presenting Noel Coward's **Design for Living** beginning October 5th.
Design, which concerns a *menage a trois* of three "smart" '20s characters is the closest that early Coward ever came to writing overtly gay characters and situations (they are unstated, but more than evident).
In addition to the Lyric Stage's production of **Blythe Spirit**, the Brattle Theater will be showing the film version of the same (with the ineffable Margaret Rutherford) on September 29. And on October 18 the Harvard Film Archive will be screening the rarely seen 1933 film version of **Design for Living** at Carpenter Center. It should be an interesting comparison, since Hollywood was afraid to touch most of the Coward subtext (unstated or not) and screenwriters had to make major changes before any filming could be done.

The 28th of September

Lanford Wilson's **Fifth of July** will be opening at the New Ehrlich Theater on the 28th of this month.
A success on both Broadway and PBS television, the play is centered around the holiday proceedings of a house full of "off-beat" characters (Broadway parlance for any character who cannot be played by Helen Hayes), including a disabled Viet Nam vet and his lover. The **Fifth of July** will be directed by Judy Braha, who directed **Bent** last year for the New Ehrlich.

Calendar
Pull
Out

BOSTON-AREA GAY/LESBIAN BUSINESS GUIDE	MEDICAL/COUNSELING	ALLAN SINGER, LICSW PSYCHOTHERAPIST Copley Square Boston, MA 02116 (617) 266-2240	LANDSCAPE DESIGN THE BEST LANDSCAPE DESIGN CO. 53 Hawthorne St. Somerville, MA 02144 (617) 776-6377	INFORMATION/MEDIA XANADU GRAPHICS 143 Albany St., Cambridge, MA 02139 661-6975
ACCOMMODATIONS	TAPESTRY, Inc. 20 Sacramento St., Cambridge, MA 02138 (617)661-0248	COUNSELING ASSOCIATES 23 East Main St. Westboro, MA 01581 (617) 366-8576	REMODELING T.H.E. CONTRACTORS, INC. 36 Pine St. Chelsea, MA 02150 (617) 889-4347	WOMEN NEW WORDS BOOKSTORE 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge, MA 02139 (617)876-5310
OASIS GUEST HOUSE 22 Edgerly Rd., Boston, MA 02115 (617)267-2262	GAY AND LESBIAN COUNSELING SERVICE 80 Boylston St.#855, Boston, MA 02116	MASS. BAY COUNSELING ASSOC. 25 Huntington Ave. #331 Boston, MA 02116 (617) 353-0225	HOME REPAIRS GEORGE W. CASPER 47 Waldeck St. Dorchester, MA 02124 (617) 288-3228	WOMENCRAFTS, INC., P.O. Box 190, 373 Commercial St., Provincetown, MA 02657
WATERSHIP INN P.O.Box 918 7 Winthrop St. Provincetown, MA 02657 (617) 487-0094	FENWAY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER 16 Haviland St., Boston, MA 02115 (617)267-7573	DENTISTRY DR.RICHARD BANKHEAD DR. PAUL GROIPEN 1259 Hyde Park Ave. Hyde Park, MA 02136 (617) 364-5500	REAL ESTATE MARK THOMAS CO, LTD Mark Zimmerman Charles St. Boston, MA 02114 (617) 227-2209	WOMEN'S BARS THE MARQUEE 512 Mass Ave Cambridge, MA 02139 492-9545
BOOKSTORES	JACK CEMPELLIN, M.S. ASSOCIATED COUNSELORS Salem & Copley Square (617) 745-7029	JOHN C. BARNA, D.M.D. 739 Boylston St. Boston, MA 02116 (617) 353-1500	RACHAEL REALTY CO. INC. 318 Harvard St. #31 The Arcade Building Brookline, MA 02146 277-0230	SOMEWHERE/ELSE 295 Franklin St. Boston 423-7730
GLAD DAY BOOKSTORE 43 Winter St. Boston, MA 02108 (617)542-0144	GENDER IDENTITY SERVICE OF NEW ENGLAND 136 Causeway St. Hudson, MA 01749 (617) 568-0680	PODIATRY A HOUSECALL Jeanne M. Arnold, DPM William A. Sandberg, DPM (617) 396-7527	TRAVEL FOREX TRAVEL 76 Arlington St. Boston Park Plaza 482-2900	GYMS SOUTH END GYM 46 Waltham St. South End, Boston, MA (617)451-3514
CHIROPRACTORS	FRANCIS GIAMBRONE, MA, COUNSELING 110 Orchard St. Somerville, MA 02144 (617) 628-6988	ACUPUNCTURE SEAN VARNUM 33 Newman Rd Malden, MA 02148 (617) 321-8818	LIMOUSINE SERVICES WAITES ROLLS ROYCE LIMOUSINE SERVICE Christopher Waites (617) 567-0420 (305) 564-1292	NEW ENGLAND WOMEN'S GYM 1261 Cambridge St. Inman Sq., Cambridge, MA 497-9776
DR. EDWARD COHEN Brookline Family Chiropractic Office 1330 Beacon St. Brookline, MA 02146 (617) 734-7744	NORTH SHORE CMHC COUNSELING 47 Congress St. Salem, MA 01970 (617) 744-5322			This guide provides a listing of gay/lesbian owned, staffed, or supportive businesses and services. To have your business or service listed (for only \$100.00 per year) call 426-4469.
DR. JONATHAN D. STEIN 375 Harvard St. Brookline, MA 02146 (617)232-7200	PLACE/HOTLINE AND COUNSELING 32 Rutland St. Boston, MA (617) 267-9150			
CINEMA				
ART CINEMA 204 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111 (617)482-4661				
NORTH STATION CINEMA 2 175 Portland St. Boston, MA, 02114 (617)227-0513				

Quick Gay Guide

BOSTON-AREA LESBIAN AND GAY BUSINESSES (BARS, BOOKSTORES, COUNSELING, MEDICAL, ACCOMMODATIONS, ETC.) ARE LISTED SEPARATELY WITH THE DISPLAY ADS IN THIS PAPER.

Boston Area (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

LESBIAN AND GAY HOTLINE (6pm-Mid.) Mon-Fri 426-9371
BAGALS (Boston Area Lesbian and Gay Schoolworkers)
P.O. Box 178, Aslor St., Boston, 02123
Black Men-White Men Social/Support Group
c/o GCN, Box 1, 167 Tremont St., Boston 02111
BAGLY (Bosion Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth,
GCN Box 10GY, 167 Tremont,
Boston 02111 497-8282
Boston Asian Gay Men & Lesbians
c/o Glad Day Bookshop, 43 Winter St.
Boston, 02108 542-0144
Boston Gay Men's Chorus 522-6983
Boston Institute for Gay Studies
Box 2750, Boston 02208 482-0897
Boston Lesbian & Gay History Project
c/o Interrante, 24 Greenwich Pk #1, Boston 02118
Cauldron Exp. Theater, 22 Randolph Pl.
Chilren Mountain Club 542-8575
275-1336

Box 104, 104 Charles St., Boston 02114
El Comite Latino de lesbianas y ho'osexuales de Boston
P.O. Box 365, Cambridge, 02139 783-5250 or 354-1755
Fathers in Transition (Gay/Bi) (Ex.Ctr.)266-0621
c/o GCN, Box 6, 167 Tremont St., Boston 02111
Gay and Lesbian Physicians of
New England (617) 482-6874 or 247-5485
Gay Professional Men's Group 944-4818
Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau,
P.O. Box 2232, Boston 02107 354-0133
Lesbian and Gay Assoc. Engineers and Scientists
(LGAES/Boston)
P.O. Box 1417, Boston 02117 288-3228
Lesbian and Gay Folkdancing 423-0942
c/o GCN Box 5, 167 Tremont St. Boston, MA 02111
Lesbian & Gay History Project 424 1993
Lesbian and Gay Hotline (6-12pm) Mon-Fri 426-9371
Merrymount Music Soc.,
Box 401, 104 Charles St. Boston 02114 236-4888
Outreach Institute, Box 368, Kenmore St., 02215 277-3454
Boston Parents Flag
P.O. Box 125 5101, Arlington, MA, 02174 265-3798
Project Place, 32 Rulland St. 02118 267-9150
Transsexual Hotline 568-0680
Triangle Theater, Box 127, 104 Charles St., Boston 02114
Watchline (Fri Mon 7-10pm) 262-5250

POLITICAL/LEGAL

Boston Lesbian & Gay Political Alliance, Box 65,
Boston, 02117 247-3910
B U Gay and Lesbian Legal Association
B U Law School, 755 Comm. Ave.
Cambridge Gay Political Caucus,
c/o GCN, Box 2, 167 Tremont St., Boston, 02111
Civil Liberties Union of Mass. 482-3170
47 Winter St., 02108
GLAD (Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Defenders)
100 Boylston Suite 900 Boston, 02116 426-1350
Harvard Committee on Gay and Lesbian Legal Issues
Roscoe Pound Hall, Cambridge, 02138
Lesbian/Gay Prisoner Project
c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111
Mass Gay Political Caucus 262-1565
Box 179, 17d Mass. Ave. Boston 02115
National Lawyers Guild
14 Beacon St. Boston 02108 227-7335

STUDENT

Boston Intercollegiate Gay and Lesbian Alliance
c/o GAMIT, Rm 50-306, Cambridge 02139
Northeastern U. Lambda, 260 Eli Ctr.,
360 Huntington Ave., Boston 02115 437-2738
GAMIT (Gays at MIT)
MIT 50 306 Walker, Cambridge 02139 253-5440
Harvard Radcliffe Gay and Lesbian
Student Assoc., Harvard 197 Memorial
Hall, Cambridge 02138 495-5476
Harvard Lesbian and Gay Medical/Dental Students Group
Box 250c, 107 Ave. Louis Pasteur, Boston 02115
Babson College, Gay and Lesbian Alliance
Box A, Babson Park, Wellesley, 02157
Tufts U. Gay and Lesbian Community,
c/o Student Activities Off., Medford 02155 628-2828
Boston College G and L Support Group,
Haley House, Chestnut Hill 02167
Northeastern School of Law, Lesbian and Gay Caucus
400 Huntington Ave. Boston 02115
U/Mass/Boston, Lesbian and Gay Ctr.,
Rm 1-4-178, Dorchester 02125 929-8276
Brandeis U., Triskelion, Box 2792 Waltham 02254
Boston U. Gays and Lesbians,c/o Program Resources
Off.,
Sherman Union, Boston 02215
Yale Gay and Lesbian Alumni/Boston,
c/o GCN Box 7, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111
Wellesley Lesbians & Friends, Feminist Coop
Oakwoods, Wellesley Coll, Wellesley MA 02151

WOMEN

Aradia Counseling for Women, 520 Comm Ave
(Kenmore Sq) 247-4861 x58
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807
Daughters of Bilitis, 1151 Mass. Ave.,
Cambridge 02138 661-3633
Dyke Doctors (Lesbian Physicians, Med Students
Health Profs) 354-5910
Gay Professional Women's Assn.,
Box 339, Boston U Sta., Boston 02215
Lesbian Lawyers and Legal Workers
Lesbian Liberation, c/o Women's Center
Lesbian S/M Group 776-7957
National Organization for Women
99 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge 02139 661-6015
Somerville Women's Center, 1 Summer St., 02143 628-6311
Tufts Women's Center 628-5000 x3184
Women's Alcoholism Program,
1348 Cambridge St., Cambridge 02139 661-1316

RELIGIOUS

Am Tikva 782-8894
P.O. Box 11, Cambridge, 02138
Dignity, 355 Boylston St., Boston 02114
Friends (Quakers) for Lesbian and
Gay Concerns, 5 Longfellow Pk., Cambridge
Integrity, P.O. Box 2582, Boston 02208 227-9118
Lutherans Concerned for Gay People 262-3057
Metropolitan Community Church 536-3788
Fr. Paul Shanley 523-7664
Unitarian Universalists Office of Lesbian/Gay Concerns
25 Beacon St. Boston 02108 964-0996
742-2100

MEDIA

Boston's Other Voice, WROR, 98 5FM Dennis 353-0225
Fag Rag 661-7534
Gay Community News 426-4469
Good Gay Poets 661-7534
Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA)
c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, 02111 542-5679
Musically Speaking (WMBR 88.1FM, Sun 1-3)
Melanie 494-8810
Women's Educ. Media, 47 Cherry St
Somerville 02144 666-0350

MEDICAL/COUNSELING

AIDS Action Committee
c/o Fenway Community Health Center
16 Haviland St. 02115
AIDS Hotline
M-F 3-9pm Sat 10am-4pm 536-7733
Boston Free VD Info 1-800-272-2577
(8am-10pm, M-F)
Alcoholics Anonymous 426-9444
Exodus Ctr. 25 Huntington Ave. 02116 266-0612
Gay & Lesbian Counseling Service 542-5188
Gay AIAnon (families of alcoholics) 843-5300
North Shore Gay and Lesbian Counseling
Program (non-profit) 744-5322
Tapestry Inc. 20 Sacramento St.
Cambridge 02138 661-0248
Tufts Skin Care Clinic (VD treatment) 956-5293

Eastern Mass. (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Central Middlesex Social Club,
Box 470, Maynard 01754 236-4882
Frenz & Luvers, Box 623,
Worcester 01601
Gay Hotline 756-0730
Mass. Teachers Assoc./Gay Rights Caucus
P.O. Box 75, New Salem 01355
North Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance
Box 806, Marblehead, 01945 745-3848
Survival Crisis Line 471-7100
So. Shore Gay & Lesbian Alliance
Box 712, Bridgewater 02324 584-4997
Tri-County Assoc., c/o 219 East Main St.,
Milford 01757 473-3529

RELIGIOUS

Dignity Merrimack Valley, P.O. Box 321, Methuen 01844
MCC Worcester, 2 Wellington St., 753-8360

WOMEN

New Bedford Women's Clinic
Origins, Inc., A Women's Center
169 Boston St., Salem 01970 996-3341
745-5873

STUDENT

Clark U. Gay Alliance, 950 Main, A-70
Gay Outreach Assoc. for Lowell (Univ.) Students
South Campus, Student Union Rm 348 453-3804
Salem State Gay Task Force
Salem St. College, Salem 01970 745-0556 (ext. 209)

Western Mass. (413)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Berkshire County Gay Coalition, P.O. Box 1562,
Pittsfield 01201, 442-1819
Lesbian and Gay Men's Counseling Collective
406F Student Union, UMass, Amherst 545-2645
GALA (Gay And Lesbian Activists)
Box 1084, Northampton 01061
Help Line 664-6391, 664-6392
Pioneer Valley People's Gay Alliance
Box 181, Northampton, 01061 584-7903
Dignity/Springfield, P.O. Box 1604 Springfield 01101

WOMEN

Valley Wmmms Connection 586-6445
Common Woman Club, 78 Masonic St.,
Northampton 01060 584-4580
Everywomen's Center, Amherst 545-0883
Franklin Cty. Lesbian Alliance
P.O. Box 235, Deerfield 01342
Gay Women's Caucus, Amherst 545-3438
Lesbians United 33 Pearl St, Pittsfield, 01201 499-2425
New Alexandria Lesbian Library
Box 402, Florence, MA 01060 584-7616
Southwest Women's Center 545-0626
Valley Lesbian Alliance 665-4705; 253-3082 774-5464

STUDENT

Hampshire College Gay Men's Alliance
Box 89, Amherst 01002
Lesbian & Gay Men's Counseling Collective
406F UMass Student Union, Amherst 545-2645
Lesbian Union, 920 Campus Center,
UMass, Amherst 01003 545-3438
People's Gay Alliance, 413 Student Union RSO 242,
UMass Amherst 01003 545-0154
Williams Gay Peoples Union
S U Box 3212, Williams College, Williamstown 01267

Connecticut (203)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Black and White Men Together,
58 Winchester Ave., New Haven 06511 562-2906, 933-0185
Conn. Gay Task Force, P.O. Box 1139, New Haven 06505
Gay & Lesbian Alliance of Greater Danbury,
c/o Box 258-Westconn, 181 White St. Danbury 06810
Gay Switchboard, Hartford, M-S 1-11 pm,
Sun 1-5 pm, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101 522-5575
Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, New Haven,
P.O. Box 72, 06501; M-F 8-11 pm 624-6869
Gay Spirit (WWUH, 91.3FM) Thurs 8:30pm
George W. Henry Foundation (counseling),
45 Church St., Hartford 06103 522-2646
Greater Hartford Lesbian & Gay Taskforce 249-7691
Institute of Social Ethics/Gay National Archives,
One Gold St., Suite 22-BC, Hartford 06103 547-1281

WOMEN

Gay Women's Collective, c/o Women's Center,
Box U-118, UConn, Storrs 06268 486-4738
Heartroots Feminist Therapy Collective,
22 Allen Pl., #B3, Hartford 06106 249-0504
Shorelinewoman 481-3575
Women's Center, Hartford, c/o Hill Ctr.,
350 Farmington Ave, Hartford 06106 249-7691
Women's Center, Manchester Community
College, P.O. Box 1046, Manchester, 06040 646-4900
Women's Center, UConn, Box U-118,
Storrs 06828 486-4738
Women's Center, Wesleyan, Box WW,
Wesleyan Sta., Middletown 06457, 347-9411
Women's Liberation Center, New Haven,
614 Orange St., New Haven 06510 776-2658

STUDENT

Alternate Lifestyles Awareness Group,
Social Work House, Farnham Ave.,
New Haven 06515 397-4331
Eros, Gay Students at Trinity College
c/o Chaplain's Office, Hartford 06106 527-3151
Gay Alliance at Yale,
P.O. Box 2031, Yale Sta, New Haven 06520 486-2273
Gay Alliance, UConn, Box U-8, Storrs, 06268
Gay Alliance, Wesleyan, c/o Women's Center,
Box WW, Wesleyan U., Middletown, 06457 347-9411
Lesbian and Gay Community at Conn. College
P.O. Box 1295, New London 06320 442-7458
Gay Student Ctr. Yale, Box 2031, New Haven 06520
Lesbian/Gay Student Alliance UConn
W, Hartford 06117 523-4841 x 267
Lesbians, Wesleyan, c/o Women's Center,
Box WW, Wesleyan St., Middletown 06457 347-9411
Yalesbians, c/o Yale Women's Ctr.,
5051 Yale Sta., New Haven 06520

RELIGIOUS

Dignity/Fairfield County,
P.O. Box 348, Belden Sta. Norwalk, 06850
Dignity/Hartford, P.O. Box 72, Hartford 06141 233-8325
Dignity/New Haven, P.O. Box 5335, Hamden 06518
Integrity/Hartford, P.O. Box 3681,
Central Sta., Hartford 06103 522-2646
Integrity/New Haven, P.O. Box 1777,
New Haven 06507 787-1518
MCC/Hartford, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101 522-5575
MCC/New Haven, P.O. Box 1273,
New Haven 06505 777-9808

MEDICAL/COUNSELING

Gay AA (Danbury) 748-5341
Gay Health Workers at YNHH,
Box 2031, Yale St., New Haven, 06520 436-8354

Rhode Island (401)

Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth 751-3322, 272-9247
Families of Gay Persons 723-0050
Gay Help Line 751-3322
Box 5671, Weybosset Hill Sta. 02903 8pm-midnight

Gay Community Services of R.I.,
c/o 903 Broad St., Providence 02907 728-9269
Providence Gay Group of AA 728-6023
Brown Lesbian Collective, c/o Sarah Doyle Ctr.
Box 1829 Brown U., 185 Meeting St.,
Providence 02912 863-2189
186 Meeting St., Providence, 02912 863-2189
Social Group for Gay Women over 25
Box 22, 77 Ives St., Providence 02906
Women's Growth Ctr.,
97 Knowles St., Pawlucket 02860 728-6023
Brown/RISD Gay Students, Box 49, Brown U.,
Providence 02912 863-3062
Brown U. Lesbian/Gay Alumnae/i Assoc.,
GCN Box 5, 167 Tremont,
Boston 02111 (617) 720-1870 661-7223
Dignity/Providence, Box 2231, Pawlucket 02861 942-9400
MCC/Providence, 5 Junction St., Providence 272-9247
MCC Special Ministry (terminally ill, aged and
handicapped), Rev. George McDermott 272-9247

New Hampshire(603)

Gay NH Infoline, 10am-10pm, Concord 485-5612
Nashua Area Gays, P.O.Box 3472,
Nashua 03061 424-3252
NH Lambda, Box 1043, Concord 03301;
224-3785, 889-1416,
746-3339; (crisis) 483-2592
NH Area Parents of Gays, 140 Kimball Hill
Rd., Hudson 03051 (Sandi or Ron) 880-7219
Greater Nashua Area NH Lambda,
P.O. Box 6443, Nashua 03063 889-1416
Speakers Bureau, Box 1043, Concord 03301
Concord Area Gay Youth,
Box 832, Concord 03301 (Ron) 225-5622
Concord Men's Group (Herb) 485-5612
Box 832, Concord 03301 485-5612
Suncook Gay F. Loner Project
Gemini, Keene Support Group,
Box 461, W. Sw. nzev, 03469
Seacoast Gay Men, P.O. Box 1394 Portsmouth 03801
Full Circle, monthly calendar of women's events,
Box 235, Contoocook, NH 03229
Iris, a women's club 436-8958
40 Pleasant St., Portsmouth 03801
Lesbian Feminist Collective, Box 47, Penacook
Campus Gay Awareness, Mem. U, UNH Durham 03824
Dartmouth Gay Students' Assoc.
Hinman Box 5057, Hanover 03755
Information Outlet 1-800-852-3311
Keene Klondykes, Box 261,
Gilsom 03448 827-3766, 847-9589
Manchester Men's Group
P.O. Box 3734, Manchester 03105

Vermont (802)

Gay AA/Burlington 863-5164
Central Vermont Gay Men, (CVGM),
Box 42, Barre 05641
Gay Student Alliance
Box 987, Johnson State Coll., Johnson 05656
Gay Student Union, U of Vt, Box 45, Billings Center
Burlington 05405
Gay People at Middlebury
Box D56, Middlebury College, 05753
League of Gays (LOGS),
Box 703, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 626-3618
Social Alt. for Gay Men (SAM),
Box 479, Norwich, VT 05055 649-1304
Southern Vermont Gay Men 387-GAYS or (603) 756-4226
Southern Vermont Lesbians/Gay Men's
Coalition, P.O. Box 1034, Brattleboro 05301
Southern Vermont Women's Health Center,
187 N. Main St., Rutland, 05701 775-1946
Women's Center, P.O. Box 92 Burlington 05401 863-1236
Integrity, Box 126, Burlington 05402 864-7198

Maine (207)

Gay Phoneline (Caribou)
AWA (Male), Box 746, Old Orchard Beach 04064 498-6556
Bates Gay/Straight Alliance, Health Ctr.,
Bates College, Lewiston 04240
Bowdoin College Gay/Straight Alliance,
Brunswick 04011
Dignity/Maine, Box 7021, Lewiston 04240
Down East Gay Alliance, Box O, Ellsworth 04605
Gay Peoples Alliance
92 Bedford St., Portland 04103 780-4085
Interweave: Univ./Univ. Gay/Lesbian
Community, Box 215, Augusta 04330 797-0215
Lesbian Rap Group, 92 Bedford St., Portland
MCC Portland, Box 583 Westbrook 04092
Mid-Coast Gay Men, P.O. Box 496, Camden 04843 236-9015
Northern Lambda Nord, P.O. Box 990, Caribou 04736
Maine Lesbian Feminists P.O. Box 125, Belfast 04915
Portland Women's Community
c/o D. Elze, 15 Deering Ave., Portland 04101
Unitarian Universalist Lesbian and Gay Caucus
561D Brighton Ave, Portland 04102 773-2121
Wilde-Stein Club, c/o Memorial Union,
U. of Maine, Orono 04469 581-1288
Parents & Friends of Gays 549-7325(eves & wkends)
Orthodox Community of Holy Apostles,
RFD Box 680, N. Whitefield 04353 549-7325
The Maine Chapter, social orgs. Box 1255, Ellsworth 04605

New York City (212)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Ass'n of Gay Social Workers,
c/o Gay Switchboard Message Center,
110 E. 23rd St. Suite 502, 10010 777-7697
Black and White Men Together/NY
Box 148, Ansonia Sta., NYC 10023
Chelsea Gay Association
132 W 24th St., 10011 772-0404
Christopher St. Lib. Day Comm.
147 W 42nd, Rm 603 10036 947-0949
FOLKS (Friends of Little Kids)
Gay Altheist League of America
P.O. Box 2111, Rock Ctr. NYC 10185 989-6653
595-1445
Dial a Gay Altheist 873-2331
Gay History Archive, Box 2, Village, 10014 473-5884
Gay and Lesbian Blind, 110 East 23rd St.
Suite 502, NYC 10010
Gay & Lesbian Youth of NY
208 W 13th St. NYC, 10011 834-0310
Gay Male S/M Activists, 132 W. 24th St., 10011
Gay Switchboard 777-1800
Gay Teachers Assoc., Box 435,
Van Brunt Sta., Brooklyn 11215 499-1060, 255-5969
Gay Vegetarians David 876-4381
Gayellow Pages, P.O. Box 292, Village Sta. 10014 744-2785
Girth and Mirth Club
c/o DMS, Box 513, 132 W. 24th St., NYC 10011
NYC Union of Lesbians & Gay Men
c/o Tan Box 24, Brooklyn 11201
North American Man/Boy Love Assoc. (NAMBLA)
Box 174, NYC 10018
Senior Action in a Gay Environment
208 W. 13th St. 741-2247
Upper West Side Lesbian & Gay Assoc.
165 W. 86th St., 10024
West Side Discussion Group,
Greenwich House, 27 Barrow St 242-4140

WOMEN

All The Queens Women, Box 271, Sta. A
Flushing 11358 359-9204
Gay Women's Alternative, 4 W. 76th St. 10023 532-8669
Lesbian Herstory Archives, P.O. Box 1258, 10116 874-7232
Lesbian Switchboard, 243 W. 20th St. 10010 741-2610

POLITICAL/LEGAL

Coalition for Lesbian & Gay Rights
29 W 21st St 924-2970

Lesbian and Gay Progressive Health Network,
300 Riverside Dr., Suite 11E, NYC 10025
Committee of Lesbian and Gay Male Socialists 988-3012
The New York Law Group, PO Box 1899
Grand Central Sta. 10163 628-8532
GREAT (Gay Racially Equal and Together)
Men of Gotham, Box 834, Brooklyn 11202
Lambda Legal Defense, 132 W. 43rd, 10036 944-9488
Lavender Left Network
Box 512, Village Sta. 10014 533-4907
National Coalition of Gay Activists,
P.O. Box A-711, Grand Central Sta., 10017
National Gay Task Force, 80 Fifth Ave., Rm 1601 741-5800

RELIGIOUS

Gay & Lesbian Interreligious Coalition
c/o Strickler, 31 Bethane NYC 10014
Church of the Beloved Disciple,
348 W. 14th St., 10004 242-6616
Congregation Beth Simchat Torah,
155 Bank St. 10014 929-9498
Dignity/Gay and Lesbian Catholics,
Box 1554, FDR Sta. 10150 869-3050
Evangelicals Concerned 688-0628
Integrity-Episcopal Gay Society,
GPO Box 1549, 10001 989-6653
Lutherans for Lesbian & Gay Concerns,
Box 2217, Brooklyn 11202 596-3839, 278-5066
MCC/NY, 201 W. 13th St., 10011 242-1212
Presby. for Les/Gay Concerns 866-3580
Trinity MCC, 152 W 66th St.
(mail) Box 1707 NYC 10163

MEDIA/ENTERTAINMENT

Gay Theatre Alliance Box 294, 10014 255-4713
Meridian Gay Theatre, 137 W. 22nd St.
NYC 10011 869-3981
NYC News, Box 2171-G.C.C. 10163 964-7272
NY Native, 249 W. Broadway, NYC 10013 925-8021
Womanews, PO Box 220, Village Sta. 10014 989-7963

STUDENT

Gay People at Columbia
Earl Hall, Rm 304 10027 280-5113
New York U. Gay People's Union
Loeb Student Ctr, Rm 810 598-7056

MEDICAL/COUNSELING

Gay Men's Health Project
74 Grove St, Rm 2RW, 10014 691-6969
Gay Nurses Alliance
44 St. Marks Pl. 10003
Homosexual Community Counseling Ctr. 688-0628
Identity House 243-8181
Institute For Human Identity 799-9432
National Gay Health Coalition
c/o Vachon, 506 W. 42nd St. #E5, NYC 10036, 563-6313
Nat. Gay Health Ed. Found.
Box 834, Linden Hill, NYC 11354 563-6313
Gay Men's Health Crisis, Box 274,
132 W. 24th St., NYC 10011 807-6655, 6664
St. Mark's Clinic, 88 University Pl.,
NYC 10003 691-8282
AIDS Hotline 800-221-7044

New York State

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Alternatives Corner (516) 483-2050
374 Woodfield Rd. W. Hemstead, 11522
Broome County Gay Alliance, P.O. Box F-1711
Binghamton 13902
Capital District Gay Community Center (7-11pm),
332 Hudson Ave., Albany 12210 (518) 462-6138
Confide—counseling for transvestites
and transsexuals. Box 56, Tappan 10983
East End Gay Organization,
P.O. Box 87, Southampton 11968 (516) 324-2468
Gay Alliance of The Genessee Valley,
713 Monroe Ave., Rochester, 14614 (716) 244-8640
or 244-9030
Gay Concerns Committee,
109 Browns Rd., Huntington 11743 (716)275-8341
Gay Connection (Th and Fri, 8-11pm) (516) 244-8640
Gay and Lesbian Alliance, P.O. Box 22740, Albany 12222 (607) 797-3453
Gay Helpline, (Fri-Sun, 7:30-10 p.m.)
Gay Light Collective, 389 W. Onondaga St.,
Syracuse 13202 (315) 475-6857
Gaymen and Lesbians in Brookhaven, PO Box 203,
Brookhaven (516) 286-3178
Middle Earth Switchboard
(gay peer counseling) (516) 826-0600
NY State Coalition of Gay Organizations,
Box 131, Albany 12201 (18) 462-6138
Parents of Gays/L.I., c/o Gay Concerns Comm.
109 Browns Rd., Huntington, 11746 (516) 427-3683
Parents of Lesbians & Gay Men (914)793-5198

WOMEN

Bisexual/Gay Women's Action Line (516) 791-5565
Horizon — A Woman's Space, 77 State St., Binghamton
Lesbian Resource Center,
713 Monroe Ave., Rochester 14607 (716) 244-9030
Lesbian Switchboard (Mon, 7-9 p.m.) (607) 722-3629

MEN

Rochester Gay Men's Gathering
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Westchester Gay Men's Assoc.
255 Grove St., White Plains. 10601
Gay Hotline (8-11pm) (914) 948-4922

RELIGIOUS

(Unitarian Universalist Gay Caucus),
34 Chestnut Rd., Delmar 12054 (518)439-9451
Dignity/Integrity/Rochester, 42 Tyler House,
17 So. Fitzhugh St., Rochester 14614 (716) 232-6521
Dignity/L.I., P.O. 621P, Bayshore 11706
Presby. for Les/Gay Concerns (716) 442-5117

STUDENT/YOUTH

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The Aids Action Committee of Boston A Response to AIDS

By John Robinson

The latest count is 2220 infected and 850 dead. By next summer Boston could have 150 cases. With the exception of Interleukin II, which can help rebuild the immune system *in vitro*, no significant progress has been made in research for a year. This is the first time that we have had our own health crisis, which is stretching the limits of our resources of patience and understanding. We live our lives under a portentous cloud of fear, anger, and shock. AIDS has breathed new life into old devils—paranoia, homophobia, racism—and is threatening our hard-won right to love each other freely. In writing of the feelings generated by pandemic

AIDS has breathed new life into old devils — paranoia, homophobia, racism — and is threatening our hard-won right to love each other freely.

disease, Camus says, "Strongest of these emotions is the sense of exile and of deprivation, with all the crosscurrents of revolt and fear set up by these."

The pressure is mounting. When an AIDS Action Committee volunteer went to have some work done at Tufts School of Graduate Dentistry, he was asked to fill out a medical history, on which he indicated that he had had hepatitis four years ago. When he returned from the bathroom he was met by the head of the department, who screamed (indicating the hepatitis), "What is this! I have to protect the lives of these students." Only after the volunteer complained did they reluctantly agree to treat him, donning gloves, goggles, and surgical masks. In its dental guidelines for treating patients with AIDS, the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta recommends these precautions; but Tufts made a quantum jump in assuming that hepatitis meant gay and that gay meant AIDS.

Equally chilling is the case of a Haitian woman who was admitted to the Beth Israel Hospital to have a baby. After the delivery, nurses noticed the telltale accent and im-

and fire departments, where there is, understandably, even less accurate information about AIDS.

There is an overwhelming need for education outside the gay community. Until recently the focus of the AIDS action Committee has been within the community—brochures listing the symptoms and degree of risk of various sexual practices have been distributed; the hotline and hospice programs are in operation. "Now," says Kessler, "the role of the Committee is shifting away from informing gay people of the risks and towards educating the straight community. We want to sensitize them. We need to educate physi-

cians in the way they take medical histories; sometimes they are too blunt and put off gay people. Jim Fishman and Rhonda Levine [mental health providers at the Fenway Community Health Center] have accompanied doctors on grand rounds. We have to expand the consciousness of straight people." The Committee is planning a brochure aimed at straight people and is urging the Governor's Task Force on AIDS to do the same and to distribute it to every physician in the state. Already underway is a working relationship with the education and nursing departments at the Charles Street Jail. The Mayor's Task Force on AIDS hopes to conduct educational programs at the Boston Police and Fire Departments.

Despite its current focus on educating the straight community, the main purpose of the Committee is to support the spiraling number of men who have been stricken with this rapacious disease—men whose lives have been subverted by the loss of their armor and who have been left prey to a horrible array of deadly illnesses. The people who volunteer in the hospice program help these

not officially recognized by the CDC, his is ineligible to collect disability benefits. A patient should apply as soon as he gets sick; although he cannot collect until the CDC accepts the case, benefits are retroactive to the date of application once the case is accepted. If he dies within six months of diagnosis, he is ineligible for Social Security death benefits. If physicians are well-informed and the bureaucratic wheels are well-oiled, there will be no inaccurate or eleventh-hour diagnoses that permit patients to fall through chinks in the system. To avoid problems such as these and to provide a national clearing house for information, the National Federation of AIDS-Related Organizations is being created and will soon be in operation.

The decision to make AIDS reportable in Massachusetts could be made by Balos Walker, Commissioner of Public Health, or by Manny Carvallo, Secretary of Human Services. The AIDS Action Committee and the Mayor's Task Force will be bringing the issue before them in early October.

Social service agencies, such as the Visiting Nurses and Meals on Wheels, must be monitored to make sure that AIDS patients are getting what is coming to them. So far this has not been a problem in Boston, but in New York it was serious enough that Governor Cuomo signed a bill that prohibits people licensed to provide services in New York from denying such services to AIDS patients.

"Gay people," says Kessler, "are on two wavelengths — those who deny AIDS is a problem and those who are anxious about it. We are concerned about both groups. Those who deny the problem put themselves and the community at risk; but it's hard to reach them, other than hoping they will read pieces like this in the gay press. They have to realize that AIDS is not made up by straight people to scare us. It's real. Multiple, anonymous sexual contacts are risky. We want to help people face up to the realities of life in the '80s. People are going to have to learn to relate in new ways. If you don't go to bed with someone right away, it's not the end of the world."

For those who are anxious, withdrawing from the scene is not the answer. Anxiety groups are available for people who are having difficulty making lifestyle changes. A new one will start up in the last week of September. Information about this free group is available by calling the AIDS Action Hotline (536-7733). "It takes a long time to raise people's consciousness. They have to start at whatever level they're at. Denying is not starting the process, neither

Larry Kessler: "They have to realize that AIDS is not made up by straight people to scare us."

fear of risk to himself or guilt (if he thinks he may have given the disease to his stricken partner). The patient's family may have just learned that he is gay, which can compound its grief with anger and bewilderment. In some cases the Committee has supported the patient's family and friends financially, paying for food and medicine. It supported the roommate of a man who had been sick for a year, allowing the roommate to stay home and care for his friend during the last week of his life.

Two very important issues to people with AIDS are early, accurate diagnosis and reportability. If a man in a rural hospital is incorrectly diagnosed and his disease is

is being paralyzed by anxiety," says Kessler. "Being informed and knowing the facts is the way to start making good lifestyle choices."

The history of medicine is reassuring. In time, and with a lot of effort and money, AIDS will be stopped. Meanwhile, as we are drawn together and made stronger by our struggle, let us be mindful of Camus' words: "We learn in time of pestilence that there are more things to admire in men than despise."

The AIDS Action Committee can be reached at 536-7733.

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...but GCN wants to remind its readers that gay men are at particular risk of contracting hepatitis B, a liver infection which kills 5000 people each year. That's five times as many fatalities each year as have ever been caused by AIDS. As of yet, there is no specific preventative or cure for AIDS. But we do have a vaccine for hepatitis B.

If you have already had hepatitis B, you may not need the vaccine. It's even possible that you may have contracted a mild form of the disease without knowing it. A simple and relatively inexpensive screening can determine whether you already have the hepatitis B antibody, or if you should consider getting the vaccine. So visit your doctor, your local gay clinic, or a community health center and ask about the hepatitis B screening and vaccine. And if you can, consider making a donation so that those who can't afford the expensive treatment can stay healthy too.

In Boston, the hepatitis B screening and vaccine is available from the Fenway Community Health Center, which maintains a fund to provide grants and loans to those who cannot afford the vaccine. For more information, or to make a contribution to the fund, call the Fenway Community Health Center at (617) 267-7573.

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Music Nancy Vogl at Passim's Music and Politics In an Intimate Setting

Nancy Vogl at Passim's Wed.
Sept. 14, 47 Palmer Street, Cam-
bridge, MA

By Nancy Wechsler

When David Morris our Features editor asked me on a Monday if I was interested in going to hear Nancy Vogl at Passim's on Wednesday and writing a review, I said yes immediately. I don't often do that. But I had just been to the New England Women's Musical Retreat and heard Nancy play there Friday night with her partner Suzanne Shanbaum. I had heard them both play, years ago, with the Berkeley Women's Music Collective. I like how they played and what they sang about. I also generally like going to small, cozy concerts (and I have promised myself that I will never again go to a music festival where there might actually be 2200 lesbians.)

I am not ten times better, but last night I was really off. I was having a hard time — something about the sound was making me alienated from myself...and therefore the audience. I was having a hard time singing. I was pushing real hard and I didn't play well. I was missing notes that I never miss, making silly mistakes," Vogl said.

I did catch that she had missed some notes on the guitar but she seemed at ease with the audience and they responded well to her.

I asked her how she compared playing at Passim's with playing at the music festival and what she had thought about the music festival. She had a mixed response, loving some of the festival and having problems with some of it,



I was not dissapointed in the evening at Passim's. Vogl's sets contained a nice combination of love songs, more political and typical folk songs and instrumentals. She described some of her instrumentals as "flatpicking" (what do I know?) and I liked them very much. In addition to love songs, some obviously for women, she briefly touched on events in Central America, Chile and our own country. I was particularly glad she sang the song "Three Mile Run" about government involvement in the deaths of three women activists, Yolanda Ward, a black woman from D.C. who was murdered several years

but always hopeful that people would learn from this year's and make next year's better. "I've worked for ten years as a musician. I've only for a couple of years been able to support myself on music. So for me to go to this festival and get a shower and a bed — I got paid to work at the festival and I got my air fair — to me this was the pinnacle of my career. To me, I felt like ten years of work and I finally get to come and perform on the night stage, which is a magical experience. The whole concept of the theater, the drama of the theater, the power of the theater — with the dark and the stage... It makes me confront a

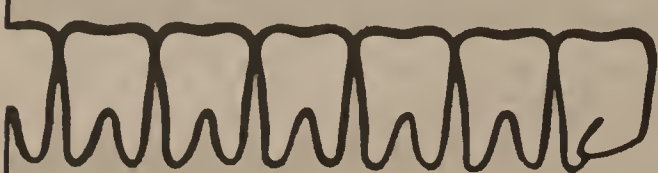
"To me, I felt like ten years of work and I finally get to come and perform on the night stage, which is a magical experience."

ago, Karen Silkwood, and Anna Mae Aquash. I was glad she sang the song because I remember being horrified when I heard of Yolanda Ward's murder, and it was good to know others had heard, been outraged and had not forgotten.

Vogl usually plays with Shanbaum and it was new for her to play a gig alone. I talked to her the next morning and asked her how she felt about the concert at Passim's and about the New England Women's Musical Retreat. She seemed glad to have had a chance to play by herself, but didn't think she had done all that well at this particular concert. "I had a miserable time [last night] because of the sound — I felt like the performance people saw is not who I am — in a way it is — I mean

lot of stuff. I am excited to finally be in that position. I also saw artisans, jewelry makers, who were treated like shit. So what is the women's movement doing?... What are we trying to build here culturally that is different from the mainstream?... Performers get treated the best. Then I think if I did not get treated like that sometimes I couldn't go on — I'd be fried.

"I've played in dives for ten years... so to be able to perform like this [at the New England Women's Musical Retreat night stage] is a privilege... It means a lot, finally to get to be like all the rest of the big girls... It was a real reward and something I can never take for granted."



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Cruise

Continued from page 6

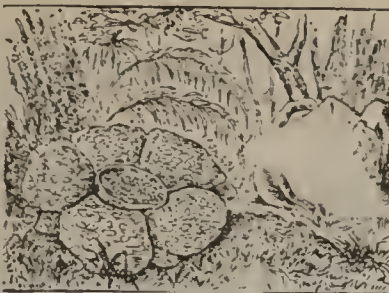
inct species one cold night last February: we were sliding across the ice while fucking and after we came he said, "There, that oughta warm things up a little!"

"Come Here Often?"

A clock strikes the hour of one. I sit in the crook of my favorite tree and watch the reeds move with the wind. Men glide about in the moonlight like statuary come to life. In the clearing a few yards ahead a man slowly takes off his clothes and stands talking with his friends. Suddenly, everything seems possible. You can improvise here, make it up as you go along. You can play here.

A man in denim walks over to me and unbuttons my shirt. I shut my eyes and try to remember that damned hanky code. Not that it matters; there's no truth in advertising. A few feet away six men are fucking in a semicircle. "Sure is dead here," he says. Somehow those stock responses learned while standing around in smoke-filled bars don't quite work in this

It is scary when they come through. They never come to take on someone "fairly," out of righteous anger or whatever. They're too cowardly for that. They always come in groups, often with knives, and look for someone vulnerable (off by himself or small) that they can hurt or rob with out much chance



Men glide about in the moonlight like statuary come to life. In the clearing a few yards ahead a man slowly takes off his clothes and stands talking with his friends. Suddenly, everything seems possible. You can improvise here, make it up as you go along. Here you can play.

of getting hurt themselves.

Wouldn't it be something if the queers had a reputation for helping each other out! Then it would take guts to come down here to harass or rob. If we resisted, these guys' only alternative would be to form larger bands and get bigger weapons. Sound like a familiar pattern?

Straight Gays

The attack from the straight (respectability-identified) gays has been the most destructive this year. They've convinced themselves there's only one way to be gay: that's at home, in private, in couples and in a "longterm, meaningful relationship." So some of the local protectors of virtue for the community mowed down most of the reeds this summer under the guise of preventing crime against the nearby gardeners. "This illicit sex in public," they say, "is against the law anyway and with the risks of AIDS and other social diseases, there seems no logical reason for the promiscuous activities." Another protector, another holder of the keys to "logic." (Interestingly enough, the reeds were mowed down only in the area of the mower's garden. Those near the other gardens were left standing, presumably because it's not so important to protect those gardeners.)

Another political pundit among them says, "The people use the area for sex and give the gay community as a whole a terrible image."

Images and bar bucks and our own lack of solidarity make life harder in our "home in the reeds." What say we of the Fens (and all such places) separately and together up our sense of community a little — "warm things up a little," as he said.

Mace and Whistles

We're pushing a couple of possibilities for building solidarity and a reputation for fighting back. One is mace. You need a license for it. You can go to the police station on Berkeley Street and fill out an application. Approval may take three months, but it's worth it. (While you're waiting, you can watch all the reruns of "Brideshead Revisited" and try to figure out why you wasted so much time on those shifts in the first place.) The license costs ten dollars. Mace should cost around eight to twelve dollars

Wouldn't it be something if the queers had a reputation for helping each other out! Then it would take guts to come down here and harass or rob... We're pushing a couple of possibilities for building solidarity and a reputation for fighting back. One is mace... The other is whistles.

and can be bought through places that sell equipment to the police department. Look in the yellow pages under "uniforms." You'll want the "personal size." It sounds like a feminine hygiene spray, but it does the job. Mace — don't leave home without it.

The other is whistles. They're easy to stick in your pocket or hang around your neck. You don't have to charge into the fray in order to blow them and a whole pack of whistles blowing (some of them approaching the scene of the action) has got to freak out invaders a little, probably a lot.

I was talking about this piece with a black friend who also cruises the Fens regularly. We both observed that there were a lot more black men than usual down here lately and that rumors are that there is more violence since the cutting of the reeds, though neither of us (who are regulars) has seen any of it. We wondered aloud whether the rumor might not result from some reflex racist connections in people's minds between more black men and an increase in the amount of "crime" that happens. There is some violence, for sure. Just wondering.

context. "Do you come here often?" he asks. "I have a season ticket," I say. I lean against him and close my eyes. (Question: Do you come here often? Answer: I live here — in a hole in the ground. Question: Do you come here often? Answer: If I came here any more often, they'd charge me rent.) What's your sign?," he says, working his finger up my ass. I toy with the idea of asking him home. This could be the start of a mature, stable relationship. If we'd work at it, we might develop that special bond that only comes with years of shared gentrification. Then again, he'd probably just bump into things and try to fuck the cat.

He screws the cap back on his poppers and we laugh and pull our pants up. "Thanks," he says. "Catch you around."

The clock strikes two. The bars are letting out. I go back to my favorite tree and wait. If you stand in one place long enough, the world comes to you. The clock strikes two-thirty. My foot has gone to sleep and I'm developing a cramp in my left leg. I decide to move on.

Making my way back through the reeds, I pass cowboys, bikers, construction workers, students, joggers (so buy yourself running shoes; there's no law that says you have to run). Occasionally, a married man scurries past seeking fast temporary relief. And then, coming into the opening, I see him. He is standing under the willow. His jacket is too big. He could use a haircut. And I don't how it is possible, but he is glowing in the dark. We kiss. "What do you do in real life?," he says. I pull him close to me and hold him. "This is real life," I tell him.

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There's not as much sense of community as you might hope for. Reasons abound: lots of closet cases (the husbands, for example), lots of people that are only here once or twice a summer, lots of people who, like all of us queers, haven't had much of a chance to openly experience working together with people you have sex with.

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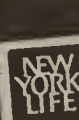
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Slavery

Continued from page 7



not knowing if I should just forget about all this revolutionary shit and just look out for myself like I used to, or should I try to work out a new way for me to fit into the things that matter about the lives like mine. So like Marvin Gay I have put myself in exile, to try and find out just what, who, how, etc. The job is even rougher because I am African living here in north Amerikkka, so as I search for the road, I think I don't get hell because I am catholic, muslim, baptist, etc., but because I am African.

Those who have been placed in a position to help the prisoner are very slick sell-out artists. They are there to get their checks, not to make any change for the prisoners so as to create a place where the prisoner will be left some responsibility over their lives so they will not be fully stripped of all self respect.

Then I add to it the new understanding I have gotten about sexual oppression and I come to the fork in the road. I don't even know if there should be a fork in the road, but there is at this time. I look for history on African homosexuality, but I have found none because like much of African history, it's hard to find, it there ever was such work done.

In my very active stage in this prison I dealt with many people who work in this system of "Justice." Those who have been placed in the position to help the prisoner are very slick sell-out artists. They are there to get their checks, not to make any change for the prisoners so as to create a place where the prisoner will be left some responsibility over their lives so they will not be fully stripped of all self respect, if there was any left. These so-call ombudsmen, legal assistants to prisoners etc. don't really do anything that can help bring about change for prisoners. Most of the time they will back and justify the violation of your rights by the administration. And if they do say they will check into a request, then in the end nothing is really done. I still have cases from 1977 that they have not taken care of.

The local TV stations will not let the local public know what is really going on in here and will report anything that the department tells them. Case in point: I was stabbed in the belly and neck with an ice pick by a racist prisoner with the help of racist pigs in the Max-Segregation block recreation yard as the pigs looked on until I dropped him, and him and his boys were getting beat up. Then the pig in the tower shot his gun. Now the news on the local TV station channel 3 in Hartford reported that there was a fight between white and Spanish prisoners and never did change their tale even after I sent them a letter on the real thing. As to the matter of other organizations who claim to be about the aid of prisoners, this I have never found to be true. Most only do things that will get

I feel while people are looking up in the sky for the bomb, the bomb has already went off right in their own front yards.

their names in the news etc. And whether people want to face it or not, people on the outside don't give a fuck about prisoners. Some may write to pen pals, but for *real* help, if its requested by the prisoner, he/she's cut off or made to feel from the jump street that they ain't nothing if they even make the request. Prison is a place where once you're there, that's it. Now there may be a *few*, very few who get the help they seek, but this is often from people who are looking to satisfy their own emotional trips, but this is in itself oppressive. I have not even been able to understand why this is the case, but one of the reasons I think it is the case is because it's not "in" to do such.

The courts are the most racist aspect of the nation. This is not a statement made by a crazed prisoner who read this in a book, but by a man who has been in prison since Ford was president. I have dealt with the criminal justice system in this land ever

that has meant an end to cheap labor and goods. Those on the other side of the wall have come on hard times. So who is there to fight with and for the prisoner? How can this be done?

Yes, I have to fight for sexual freedom because we are all human and this is just. Yes, I must fight for the end of this criminal justice



Shaka M. M. Zulu

system because it is a slow death for all of us. Yes, I must be about the business of standing with the oppressed the world over and I hope I'm able to come out of self-exile and move on.



since I have been seven years old. It's the system of slavery in the *real*. And like the song goes, "don't nobody want you when you're down and out." It's a system that works to drive people apart as far as it can, unlike African systems which work on bringing people closer together, in those countries that still have a system that's working. Everyone uses the prisoner, the religious types, the politician, the so-called radical groups, etc. They all point out what they do for the poor prisoner. In the end it ain't shit, nothing.

Therefore, when the doors are opened there's no telling what's coming out. It should be soldiers for the fight, but that's a joke in the eyes of those on the other side

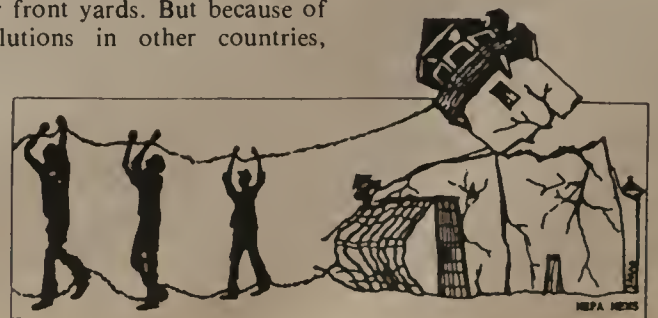
Yes, I have to fight for sexual freedom because we are all human and this is just. Yes, I must fight for the end of this criminal justice system because it is a slow death for all of us. Yes, I must be about the business of standing with the oppressed the world over and I hope I'm able to come out of self-exile and move on.

of the wall. There ain't no John Browns of the mind out there to take on this system that keeps this madness going and going, from generation to generation. Like Marvin Gay sang, "There'll come a time when the world won't be singing, flowers won't grow, bell's won't be ringing, who really cares, who's willing to try to save a world that is destined to die?"

I feel while people are looking up in the sky for the bomb, the bomb has already went off right in their front yards. But because of revolutions in other countries,

But after I have written all this, still the bars will be full on the weekend, there will be parties and joy expressed all over by those who will not understand.

I am an African prisoner here in the USA. Is there anyone real or am I just a sucker, the only one who has not gotten the joke?



Police Enforce Studded Armband Law

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — State and local police departments in the Boston area have begun to enforce a newly-enacted provision in the Massachusetts dangerous weapons law which prohibits the possession of spiked or studded leather wristbands. The law provides for a penalty ranging from a \$50 fine to

five years in state prison, depending on the prior criminal record of the person charged.

Keith Nordin of Methuen says he was riding his motorcycle southbound on Route 93 around 5:30 p.m. on September 9 when a Massachusetts State Police cruiser signaled him to the side of the

road. Trooper Robert Krom took Nordin's license and registration, and confiscated a studded leather watch band the motorcyclist was wearing. According to Nordin, Krom told him he was under arrest and added: "You have the right to remain silent and I advise that you use it."

Nordin was taken to the state police facility in Andover, where he was booked on the single charge of possession of a dangerous weapon: the watchband.

Nordin told *GCN* he believes he was arrested simply because the trooper wanted to harass him. He said Krom twice told him "I don't like guys like you." And Nordin claims Krom roughed him up. "I warned him that I am under the care of a chiropractor, because of my back," Nordin said, adding that his chiropractor later told him he suffered strained back muscles during the arrest.

Trooper Krom could not be reached for comment. A trooper answering the telephone confirmed the arrest and the charge, but refused further comment.

A survey of several police officers in the Boston and Massachusetts State Police Departments yielded varying comments on how the law was being enforced. Most officers noted that arrests on such a charge are made at the individual officer's discretion.

The portion of the law relating to the wristbands has its origin in a bill signed by Governor Edward King on July 6, 1982. Massachusetts State Representative Michael Flaherty (D-South Boston), a member of the Judiciary Committee and an outspoken opponent of gay rights legislation, filed the bill. Flaherty told *GCN* he could not remember filing the bill and speculated that he had done it at the request of law enforcement lobbyists.

Jack Flynn, a Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) police officer and a lobbyist for the Massachusetts Police Association, told *GCN* he couldn't remember if

his organization had submitted the legislation, but offered an explanation of the law.

"As a police officer myself," Flynn said, "I would say that there was a genuine problem with people wearing those wristbands with those studs on them.... It's a potentially dangerous weapon in a circumstance where a fray or some sort of difference of opinion erupted."

Flynn said he doubted the law was meant to apply where the wristband was worn as jewelry rather than as a weapon. "My own thought is that it was intended for a wristband with studs that could do some bodily harm, like any other dangerous weapon. If they're rounded off, they wouldn't do as much harm as a college ring would," he said. "Sure, the police officer may interpret that statute to his liking, he may extend it somewhat and bring the guy into court, but I can't see a judge accepting that article, as you describe it... and classifying it as a dangerous weapon."

Nordin will have a chance to see for himself at a hearing in Woburn District Court on September 26.

The several police departments contacted by *GCN* could not say how many arrests had been made under the new law, but unconfirmed reports have reached *GCN* about arrests in Boston and Cambridge. And according to the *Boston Globe*, a similar law appears to be in effect in Canada, where singer Grace Jones was detained by customs officials after agents found a studded leather wristband in her luggage. Jones' wristband was seized, and the singer was released without charge.

AIDS

Continued from page 1

to AIDS as one of curiosity, but when a friend from high school died of AIDS, the disease became tragically real and she got angry about it.

Patton urged the women at the forum to overcome old arguments with gay men and resentments over their past non-interest in women's issues. She told of a dizzying sense of *deja vu* as she listens to gay men describe oppressive attitudes they are now encountering from the medical establishment. "Men are beginning to understand what we've been talking about all this time, and although it may be aggravating to hear a man tell you the same analysis of health care that you've been using for years, listen anyway and use the opportunity to make connections."

Moderator Ann Maguire spoke briefly about the women's blood drives now being organized in Boston. While details are unavailable at this time, she urged women to give blood when the opportunity arises. Maguire cited successful blood drives which were organized in San Diego and Denver and noted that donating blood is a good way to "react to the crisis concretely."

Questions from the audience

ranged from predictable medical clarifications to doubts about all the agitation concerning federal funding for research. Some women merely wanted to express a personal view of the problem. "It's so weird," one said, "the two year to four year incubation period."

A woman told a story of a man she worked with at a local health clinic (not Fenway) who was fired because he was thought to have AIDS. "People were disturbed about it, but some wondered if a man who's thought to have a contagious disease should be working in a health care environment. Not all cases are so clear cut that people will go to court on it," she concluded.

Rhonda Linde pointed out that the sudden surge of media attention to the crisis occurred only after 500 people had died. She marked the change in coverage by a program aired on ABC's "20/20" in the early spring.

One want asked about the implications for women considering artificial insemination. Dr. Ganske said donors at high risk should be eliminated, but noted it was sometimes difficult to get information about sperm donors. A woman in the audience said the Oakland

Feminist Women's Health Center asks donors to rate themselves in terms of their own risk level. She reported that almost all the gay men donors have eliminated themselves because of fear of transmitting AIDS.

As the forum ended, some women expressed surprise that the crowd wasn't larger. One woman commented, "I don't think very many lesbians see this as their issue." More than one woman said she had learned new things about AIDS at the forum.

But was something missing? "Perhaps the structure should have been different. I think small group discussions would have been more productive. Women need to talk with each other about this, rather than ask experts questions," said one audience member.

And another, "I wish there had been more sex positive prevention discussed. And more mention of homophobia as it affects all our lives."

Ann Maguire told *GCN* that she was pleased with the turnout and that BL/GPA's goal of initiating a discussion had been achieved, but there are no plans to do follow-up on this first meeting.

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Peace Ed Program Dir, Dayton, OH. American Friends Service Committee, a social service & educational org which responds to Quaker concerns in peace, nonviolence, social justice, & individual worth. The Dir develops local programs, oversees AFSC projects of other staff & volunteers, builds an AFSC peace network & interprets peace education program to broader community. Current work includes: Dayton-based disarmament & economic conversion project; support for area groups working on sanctuary & Central America; participation in Coalition of Conscience; & oversight of AFSC sponsored projects in Louisville & Appalachian Kentucky. Requires demonstrated experience in development of community action/education projects; commitment to nonviolent social change; understanding of human rights, peace & disarmament; good oral & written communication skills. Salary \$14,721-17,350 depending on qualifications. Liberal benefits. Send resume by Oct 30 to AFSC, 915 Salem Ave, Dayton, OH 45406. Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. (11)

WOULD BE POETS AND POETS OF UNQUESTIONED SKILL

Enter the **GCN CLASSIFIED** poetry contest and win free non-business ads to be used whenever you wish—in this life or the next. . . Just make up a little ditty to someone imaginary or real or write about politics, your cat, your dog, your house, your mother. Anything that catches your fancy. There are two categories, Serious and Humorous, and there will be three prizes in each category: six free ads, four free ads, two free ads. All winning ads will be re-run (free, of course) in display format. Ads given as prizes will have 1 headline and 6 lines of text. Ads you send in may be any length, but remember, **YOU MUST PAY FOR YOUR ENTRIES**. The point is that these are **non-business ads written in verse, and as such, you may deduct 50% of their regular price**. All poems must be original, not just slightly altered copies of other ads you may see in the GCN Classifieds. Entries must be **postmarked no later than October 1, 1983**. Please write "Poetry Contest" on the outside of your envelope. Thank you. **ENJOY!**

Prisoners Seeking Friends

Readers (inside and out): Almost all ads are taken from much longer letters which we cannot print in full in the free space GCN has provided. Even so, there's usually a waiting list of 3 to 6 weeks and ads usually only run once or twice (unless we can't get new ones done because of other work).

ATTENTION PRISONERS (especially women)

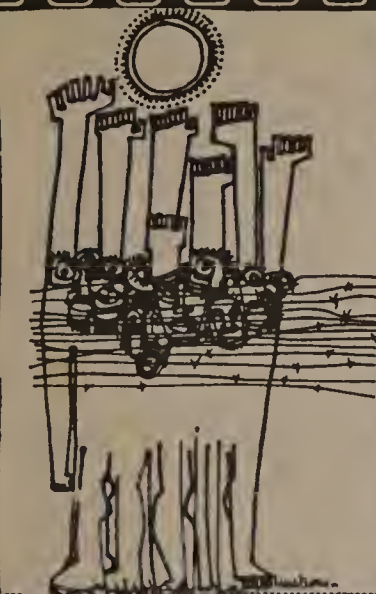
We are looking for short articles (3-4 typewritten pages, if you can get you hands on a typewriter, handwritten neatly if you can't) on your experience with the law enforcement, court and prison business. Also graphics (line drawings, cartoons, etc.)! Don't send anything you expect to get sent back (postage is just too expensive). They can be very 'personal' pieces or political rantings and ravings. Remember you're writing to other gay men and women who have much to learn about how the law really works. Send your stuff to: GCN Prisoner Project, 167 Tremont St., Boston MA 02111. Enjoy!]

GCN GAY AND LESBIAN PRISONER PROJECT

We send free papers, books (when they are donated and when money for postage is donated) and run free penpal ads. (There's sometimes a long waiting list because of limited space.) Little by little as we get more volunteer labor power we'll be looking for other ways to support lesbians and gay men behind bars. If you can help with your time or a contribution (of money or paperbacks), please send to Gay and Lesbian Prisoner Project, c/o GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111. Thanks!

HELP! I want to get some moral (letters!) support in this heterosexual hell hole where I am now in the middle of filing three law suits against them and they don't like me at all. I need you to help me show them I am not alone, that they can't always isolate us gays every time they want. Please write just to give me some contact, even if only one letter, and to let them know that I have ties. Thanks. Roger Dale EMANUEL, 977 Camp Road, Salisbury NC 28144.

[Prisoner Project Note: Another prisoner in much the same boat (needing one-shot letters of support either to themselves or to prison officials whose names they can tell you) is Robert D. GRANGER, 75973-012 Unit I, 3901 Klein Blvd, Lompoc CA 93436. They both deserve the support and this is a way you can do it without committing yourself to a 'long-term, meaningful relationship'.]



TO ALL THOSE WHO IN AND OUT OF PRISON FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BONDAGE (Alexander Berkman, Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist).



I would like female prisoners or other gay women to write me. I also would like a picture enclosed, but not required. I really need people to write me and would also like to get a copy of your magazine. Thank you, Cheryl WOLFE, 16531, 1479 Collins Ave., Marysville OH 43040.



My interests are classical music and the arts, cooking, reading, writing and helping people and fighting for gay rights. I would like to have a penpal to write to. Edward BUBBENMYER, M7837, Box A, Bellefonte PA 16823.

I am a dominant gay/bi male who has for many years been deep into B/D, GS, spanking and master-slave relationships of beautiful fulfillment for gay men, bi-females and myself. I am 46 and well-endowed. If you want to serve and receive fulfillment of your needs and desires, write! Everett LOHRBACK, 17684, Box 2, Lansing KS 66043.

It's very lonely in here and I would enjoy getting letters from bisexual men and women. Alvin HUMMEL, 021558, Box 316, Ft. Madison IA 52627.

Looking for correspondence with intelligent, professional gay male. Am horticulturist by profession and will be continuing when I get out. Am looking for serious friends, not \$. Picture and letter will receive the same. Walter FRITZ, C67700-M152U, Box 2000, Vacaville CA 95696.

Some of my interests are body building, music, dance, and people. I'm a 20 year old Cancer with blue eyes. Bruce STEVENS, 24858, South—G, Box 127, Plainfield IN 46168.

My name is Wolf Jones and I would like to write with hopes of meeting a well-hung white stud. I am a very pretty black with a deep anatomy top and bottom. Special for the man who will fill it. Wolf JONES, Box 2, Lansing KS 66043.

I am requesting your help in receiving some kind of penpal companionship and also if I could receive your national newsweekly I would appreciate it. Robert PETERKIN, 81B1291, Drawer B, Stormville NY 12508.

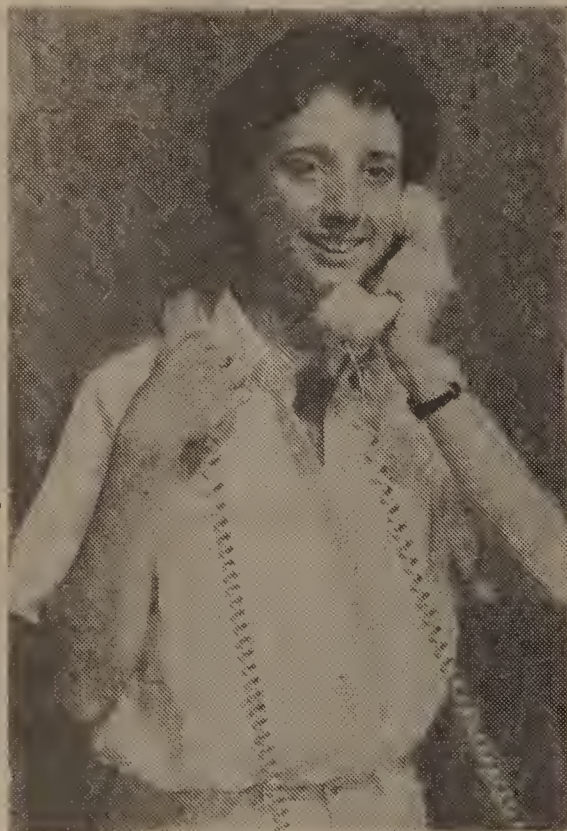
Since coming here I've become something of a gay activist and politician and more aware of our plight and need for a sense of human dignity and equality. I would like to get acquainted with more people outside to be able to share some of this. Kimball MORTON, 36239, PO Box 900, Jefferson City MO 65102.





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